

# County of Monterey Board Policy Manual

<b>Policy Name</b> County Facility Guide on Microwave Popcorn	<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Page</b>
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<b>Policy Category</b> Government & Administration		

## I. Purpose

1. To provide guidance and direction on the restriction of preparing microwave popcorn in County facilities.

## II. Background

- a. Since the occupancy of the County Administration building, a number of fire alarm incidents requiring evacuation and deployment of the Salinas Fire Department have resulted from the microwave over-cooking of popcorn resulting in burning, smoking, and in some cases ignition. Each event is disruptive and expensive and requires complete evacuation of the facility by staff and the public, as well as deployment of valuable police and fire resources. Further, these risks pose a significant fire safety risk to the new building and its occupants. It is unknown whether the artificial butter flavoring containing diacetyl, which can cause an irreversible lung disease called bronchiolitis obliterans if exposure is prolonged.

## III. Policy

1. It is the Policy of the County that microwave policy is no longer allowed to be prepared in any County facility. County employees are requested not to bring in un-popped microwave popcorn to work.

## IV. Review Date

1. This Policy will be reviewed for continuance by

## V. Board Action

1. Legistar File Number, *date*.