County of Monterey Board Policy Manual

Policy Name County Facility Guide on Microwave Popcorn	Policy Number G-165	Page1 of 1
Policy Category 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 all County buildings and occupants.

III. Policy

1. It is the Policy of the County that microwave popcorn is no longer allowed to be prepared in any County facility. Prepared popcorn and related products are permitted.

IV. Review Date

1. This Policy will be reviewed for continuance by October 12, 2027.

V. Board Action

1. Legistar File Number, 18-020, January 23, 2018.