ANCHOR BOLT INSPECTION POLICY IN MASONRY/CONCRETE
FOR FOOTINGS, FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION

Background:

Contractors and Owner/Builders want to be prepared for their foundation inspections and have their work approved by the Field inspector. The Field Inspector wants to have the foundation in compliance with the approved plans and building practices. Therefore, the Contractor or Owner/Builder should review the following items prior to scheduling an inspection:

Why we enforce our policy:

- Verifying structural bolt placement and anchor bolt size (length, diameter, type and configuration) for typical structure attachment, prior to placement of footings and foundations, is an important part of the building inspection field process.
- Installing anchor bolts and/or hold-down bolts into wet concrete must be performed very accurately to achieve minimum height, minimum embedment and accurate spacing in most applications.
- Accurately setting anchor bolts by hand (stabbing) into poured concrete is problematic due to the varying timeframe in which concrete takes its initial set.
- Forcing anchor bolts into partially set concrete can result in re-tempered and weakened concrete as well as flawed bolt installations and ultimately loose and misplaced bolts.
- On a two pour system, verifying the depth of embedment is also critical. This policy benefits the inspection process and the contractor by helping to reduce incidence of required foundation bolt fixes after concrete placement and cure

Policy:

It shall be the policy of Sacramento County Building Inspection to require all anchor bolts 5/8” in diameter and larger that are set in concrete or masonry construction to be secured in place by templates prior to county inspection (and placement of concrete).

This policy may be waived by the building official on a case-by-case basis.