



Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

The Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association,
"Organization" (§633.026)

Informal Interpretation Request

Date: 8/4/22

*National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Document No. applied by the LFO: **FFPC 18.2.3.2.2**
Edition of the NFPA Document: **2018 Edition**
Chapter and Paragraph of the NFPA Document: **FFPC 18.2.3.2.2***

*Explain how the Petitioner's substantial interests are being affected by the LFO's interpretation of the NFPA citation above: **Loss of Revenue and Security. Reduction in design efficiency with increase cost.***

Enter a statement of the LFO's interpretation of the NFPA citation above and identify the manner in which the statement was rendered:

For non-sprinklered structures, no portion of a building's exterior wall may exceed 150 ft. in travel distance from the fire department access road. For sprinklered structures, the minimum increases to 450 ft. (FFPC 1.18.2.3.2.2, FFPC 1.18.2.3.2.2.1). In projects similar to yours, this has been achieved by separating the perimeter buildings at intervals by a marked fire lane.

Enter a statement of the interpretation that the Petitioner contends should be given to the NFPA citation above and a statement supporting the Petitioner's interpretation:

In this case, the exterior walls of the perimeter buildings (identified as Building A, B, C & D on the attached) are effectively 40' or less from the fire access road, so no change to our plan should be required. The exterior buildings in question are non-residential metal buildings with depths ranging from 10' to 40'. Each unit has a roll-up garage door and there are no interior hallways, so the exterior walls of the building are immediately accessible from the fire access road through the garage doors.

Explain how the Petitioner's substantial interests are being affected by the question below:

If we follow the LFO's interpretation, we will have to create separations at multiple points in the perimeter building. This will needlessly reduce square footage and revenue, reduce the security provided by the continuous perimeter building, reduce design efficiency and increase construction cost.

Enter the Petitioner's question concerning an interpretation of the FFPC:

Since the perimeter building has the qualities described in Section II (non-residential, 40' or less in depth, no interior hallways, roll-up garage doors), is the exterior wall of the building considered 40' (or less) from the fire access road as currently designed?

Rulings herein expressed are not the formal position of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office

Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association | P. O. Box 325 Hobe Sound, FL 33475 | Tel 772-349-1507 | Fax 772-546-6675

Website: www.FFMIA.org | Email: info@ffmia.org | http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/bfpr/bfpr_index.htm



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Committees' majority answer: No

The exterior wall is not considered to be 40' or less from the access road. Measurements from the exterior wall to the fire department access road should not be made by going through the building

Region 1 - Delegate: **Byron Bennett**, Fire Chief North Bay Fire Control District
Alternate: **William (Michael) Hall**, Fire Chief, Marianna Fire Rescue

Region 2 - Delegate: **Jason R. Greisl** Division Chief of Fire Prevention/Fire Marshal Tallahassee Fire
Alternate: N/A*

Region 3 - Delegate: **James Groff**, Jacksonville Fire Rescue.
Alternate: **Robert Growick** Division Chief /Fire Marshall City of St. Augustine

Region 4 - Delegate: **Cheryl Edwards**, Lakeland Fire Rescue
Alternate: **Karl Thompson**

Region 5 - Delegate: **Anthony Apfelbeck**, Altamonte Springs Building and Fire Safety Department
Alternate: **Christina Diaz**, Seminole County Fl.

Region 6 - Delegate: **Robert Salvaggio**, Cape Corral Fire Rescue
Alternate: **Janet Washburn**, Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

Region 7 - Delegate: **Matthew E. Welhaf**, Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Department
Alternate: **(Kenneth) Sean Brown**, Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue & Emergency Services Department.

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Committee Region Map



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