



**BROWARD COUNTY
BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS
FBC 6th Edition (2017)
FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#10)**

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DATE: September 9, 2017
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers

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Board Attorney

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Board Administrative Director

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its regular meeting of October 12, 2017, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following 6th Edition (2017) Florida Building Codes:

1. FBC, Energy Conservation, Sections C501.7 and R501.7.

Building systems and components. Thermal efficiency standards are set for the following building systems and components where new products are installed or replaced in existing buildings, and for which a permit must be obtained. New products shall meet the minimum efficiencies allowed by this code for the following systems and components:

Heating, ventilating or air-conditioning systems;
Service water or pool heating systems;
Lighting systems; and
Replacement fenestration.

Exceptions:

4. Replacement equipment that would require extensive Revisions to other systems, equipment or elements of a building where such replacement is a like-for-like replacement, such as through-the-wall condensing units and PTACs, chillers and cooling towers in confined spaced.

Formal Interpretation:

The replacement of existing Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers that will require the alteration of building walls; as determined by the Building Official or his or her representative, qualifies under the exception 4 to the FBC Energy Conservation 6th Edition section C501.7 and R501.7. As consequence this application needs not meet the minimum SEER required in Section C303.2.3 and Table R405.5.2(1) of said Code as long as the replacement is a “like for like” as stated in the above Exception.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015
RE-ISSUED: October 12, 2017
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2018

*****PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER*****