



BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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broward.org/CodeAppeals

FBC 7th EDITION (2020) FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#17)

DATE: July 9, 2020
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Alteration of existing smoke evacuation or smoke control systems

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Vice-Chair

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Mrs. Shalanda Giles Nelson,
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Board Attorney

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

Board Administrative Director

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 9, 2020, the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following FBC 7th Edition (2020) sections:

- FBC Existing Building, Chapter 14 Performance Compliance Methods
- FBC Building Chapter 4, Special detailed requirements based on use and occupancy
- FBC Building, Section 909 Smoke Control Systems

Formal Interpretation:

The alteration of an existing smoke evacuation or smoke control system, including elimination; is possible, if all the following is provided and demonstrated to the Authority Having Jurisdiction for review, rejection for just cause, or acceptance:

1. A comprehensive evaluation of the building's life safety, fire safety, means of egress, general safety, etc. is performed by a registered architect and/or engineer, in accordance with Chapter 14 Performance Compliance Methods of the 2017 Florida Building Code - Existing Building, Sixth Edition.
2. The result of the alteration or elimination is to maintain or increase the degree of public safety, health and general welfare in existing buildings or structures. The alteration can include the upgrade of existing safety systems and or building safety fixtures; and or the installation of additional safety systems and or building safety fixtures in the building or structure.
3. Any proposed work is permitted and inspected, in accordance with Florida Building Code 6th Edition (2017), Chapter 1, Administration — Broward County.
4. Smoke control systems currently required by the FBC or FFPC shall not be eliminated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 15, 2018
RE-ISSUED DATE: July 9, 2020
EFFECTIVE DATE: December 31, 2020

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