



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#3)**

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**Board Attorney**  
Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

**Board Administrative Director**  
James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

**DATE:** May 18, 2015

**TO:** All Building Officials

**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director 

**SUBJECT:** Attachments of Ductwork to Air Handling Equipment.

At the meeting of May 14, 2015, BORA approved an interpretation of Section 603.9, Florida Mechanical Code, 5 edition (2014) and section 1601.4.1, FBC, Residential, 5 edition (2014) [formerly Table 603, Sec.603.1, and 603.1.6 of the 2010 FMC; and Table M1601.4 Sec. 1601.4.1.1 of the 2010 FBC Residential].

These sections state attachment of rigid fibrous glass duct work to air-handling equipment shall be by mechanical attachment and attachment shall be by mechanical fasteners. These sections further define mechanical attachments for air distribution systems as screws, rivets, welds, interlocking joints crimped and rolled, staples, twist in (screw attachment, and compression systems created by bend tabs or screw tabs and flanges or by clinching straps.

Broward County has a long successful history of using UL181 A/P listed pressure-sensitive aluminum foil tape and UL 181 A/M glass fabric and mastic for attaching rigid fibrous glass duct board to cleaned sheet metal equipment flanges in residential applications. North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA) is listed in the Reference Standards and Organizations sections of the FMC and FRC. NAIMA's Fibrous Glass Residential Duct Construction Standard states "Connections of fibrous glass duct board to carefully cleaned sheet metal equipment flanges may be made with UL A/P listed pressure-sensitive aluminum foil tape."

### **Formal Interpretation:**

**The use of UL 181 A/P listed pressure sensitive aluminum tape or UL 181 A/M glass fabric and mastic are acceptable methods of attaching rigid fibrous glass duct work to cleaned sheet metal equipment flanges in residential applications.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 20, 2005

**RE-ISSUED:** March 1, 2009

**RE-ISSUED:** March 15, 2012

**RE-ISSUED** May 14, 2015

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 30, 2015

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