1. Mechanical Code, 602.2.1 Materials Exposed within Plenums

2. Identification of Mechanical Equipment

3. Attachments of Ductwork to Air Handling Equipment

4. Insulation Requirements for Primary Condensate Drains

5. Retrofit of Windows, Doors, Garage Doors, Shutters and Skylights
   FBC Existing Building, Alteration Level I

6. Solar Assisted Air Conditioning Systems

7. Installation of 100% Wireless Network Low Voltage Alarm Systems

8. Retrofits Required Pursuant to Florida Building Codes Existing Building Section 708.8.1

9. Residential Clothes Washing Machines Drains

10. Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers

11. Domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes

12. Window Replacement
DATE: May 18, 2015

TO: All Building Officials

FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Mechanical Code 602.2.1 Materials Exposed within Plenums.

This portion of the Interpretation concerns the residential portion of R-2 occupancies.

At its meeting of May 14, 2015, the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals approved the following Formal Interpretation.

Section 602.2.1 of the 5th Edition (2014) Florida Mechanical Code requires materials exposed within plenums to be noncombustible or shall have a flame spread index of not more than 25 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 50 when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 (2009 Edition).

CPVC Flowguard Gold Pipe, SDR11 was tested by Southwest Research Institute using a modified ASTM E-84 test methodology in the following sizes.

- 0.5 inch (nominal) water filled CPVC pipe: SwRI Project No. 01.04017.01.301b [1]
- 2.0 inch (nominal) water filled CPVC Pipe: SwRI Project No. 01.04017.01.301c [1]
- 0.5 inch (nominal) empty CPVC Pipe: SwRI Project No. 01.10083.01.158e
- 0.75 inch (nominal) empty CPVC Pipe: SwRI Project No. 01.10083.01.158f [1]

All four Modified ASTM E-84 Tests showed flame spread indices of not more than 25 and smoke-developed indices of not more than 50.

By accepting these four Modified ASTM E-84 Tests, the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals approved the use of CPVC Flowguard Gold Pipe, SDR11 installed in Mechanical Closets and Mechanical Equipment/Appliance Rooms used as plenums in the residential portion of R-2 Occupancies. Approval is limited to 0.5 inch (nominal) thru 2 inch (nominal) water filled CPVC and 0.5 inch (nominal) empty CPVC pipe.

At its meeting of September 11, 2008 the above Interpretation was expanded to include the following language which applies to both commercial and residential occupancies:

CPVC piping may be accepted for use in plenums in instances where the manufacturers have tested their product with an approved testing agency to an acceptable alternate method to ASTM E-84 – “Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials”. Evidence must be submitted to the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) that the piping has a flame spread index of not more than 25 and a smoke developed index of not more than 50 when tested in general accordance with ASTM E-84, 2009 Edition, Pipe can be tested empty or water filled and in various pipe diameters.

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****
DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Identification of Mechanical Equipment.

At the meeting of May 14, 2015 the Board approved an interpretation of Section 304.12, 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Code, Mechanical (FMC) (section 304.12, 2010 FMC; section 304.11 2007 FMC and Sec. 304.9 2001 FMC). These sections of the code require marking of appliances (air conditioning equipment) serving different areas of a building other than where they are installed to uniquely identify the appliance and the area it serves.

The purpose of these sections is to easily identify equipment for servicing and in case of an emergency. An example would be multiple installations of appliances on a roof top of an office building, condominium, apartment building, etc. There is no requirement for identification of appliances contained in the Florida Residential Code.

Formal Interpretation:

Section 304.12, 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Code, Mechanical does not apply to buildings governed under the Florida Residential Code. These buildings include detached one-two family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories in height with a separate means of egress.

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****
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, 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****
DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Insulation Requirements for Primary Condensate Drains.

At its meeting of May 14, 2015, BORA approved an interpretation of Sec. 307.2.5 of the 5 Edition (2014), Florida Mechanical Code (FMC); (same section on 2010 FMC). This section states “All horizontal primary condensate drains within unconditioned areas shall be insulated to prevent condensation from forming on the exterior of the drain pipe.”

Questions have been raised about the code requirement to insulate condensate drains that were installed vertically or at an angle (pitched).

All condensate drain lines are required to have a slope to insure proper drainage and therefore are not perfectly horizontal. The code does not address the insulation of condensate drains lines that are installed vertical or at an angle (pitched). It appears the intent of the code was to apply to condensate piping which is installed in a relatively horizontal manner.

Formal Interpretation:

Only primary condensate drain lines within unconditioned areas installed in a relatively horizontal manner are required to be insulated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 20, 2005
RE-ISSUED: March 1, 2009
RE-ISSUED: March 15, 2010
RE-ISSUED: May 14, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

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

FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#5)

DATE: May 18, 2015

TO: All Building Officials

FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Retrofit of Windows, Doors, Garage Doors, Shutters and Skylights
FBC Existing Building, Alteration Level I

At its meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board approved an interpretation of Retrofit of Windows, Doors, Garage Doors, Shutters and Skylights, for detached one and two family dwellings, and multiple single family dwellings, [townhouses] with common roof height < 30 feet.

1. Window or door buck, and mull bar inspections are not required. The buck shall comply with Section FBC 1710.10 specifically, unless otherwise tested; buck shall extend beyond the interior face of the window or door frame such that full support of the frame is provided.

2. A Florida Professional Engineer or Architect may modify the buck or fasteners as specified in a Notice of Acceptance. Such modification must be documented with a signed and sealed letter or drawing.

3. To obtain the required design pressure for a specific opening at a specific site, an individual must utilize one of the following and submit documentation as indicated.
   a) A site-specific plan (signed and sealed) by a Florida Professional Engineer or Architect, indicating the location of all retro openings and the required design pressures.
   b) A site-specific plan (not sealed) indicating the location of all retro openings accompanied by a worst case design pressure chart (signed and sealed) prepared by a Florida P.E. or Architect.
   c) A site-specific plan (not sealed) indicating the location of all openings and indicating the required design pressures based on the Broward County Fenestration Voluntary Wind Load Chart. (see attached chart).

4. Buildings with a (height) > 30 feet or more shall have a site-specific design (signed and sealed) by a Florida Professional Engineer or Architect, indicating the location of all retro openings and the required design pressures for each opening.

NOTE: Generic charts, graphs alone, etc. are not acceptable for buildings above 30 feet.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 12, 2012

RE-ISSUED: May 9, 2014
RE-ISSUED: May 14, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

***PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER****
Broward County Fenestration Voluntary Wind Load Chart*
Per ASCE 7-10 Method 1, Part 1 and FBC 5th Edition (2014) Retrofitting in Accordance with Formal Interpretation #5
For Detached One-and Two family dwellings and Multiple Single-Family Dwellings (Townhouses) with Mean Roof Height ≤ 30 feet
Wind 170 mph (3-second gust) / Exposure C** / \( K_d = 0.85 \) / \( K_z = 1.0 \)
* Using Allowable Stress Design methodology \( (P = 0.6w) \) / ** Exposure shall be determined according to ASCE 7-10 Section 26.7.3 (Exposure Categories)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Wind Area (( ft^2 ))</th>
<th>Location: Gable or Hip Roof</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 15 feet</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 20 feet</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 25 feet</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 30 feet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 (Gable/Hip Roof ( \theta \leq 7^\circ ))</td>
<td>16.0 -37.8 16.0 -63.4 16.0 -95.4</td>
<td>16.3 -40.2 16.3 -67.4 16.3 -101.4</td>
<td>17.1 -42.1 17.1 -70.6 17.1 -106.3</td>
<td>17.8 -43.7 17.8 -73.4 17.8 -110.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>16.0 -36.8 16.0 -56.7 16.0 -79.1</td>
<td>16.0 -39.1 16.0 -60.2 16.0 -84.0</td>
<td>16.0 -41.0 16.0 -63.1 16.0 -88.0</td>
<td>16.7 -42.6 16.7 -65.6 16.7 -91.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 (0 to 1.5:12)</td>
<td>16.0 -36.8 16.0 -41.0 16.0 -61.0</td>
<td>16.0 -36.8 16.0 -43.6 16.0 -43.6</td>
<td>16.0 -38.5 16.0 -45.7 16.0 -45.7</td>
<td>16.0 -40.0 16.0 -47.4 16.0 -47.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (Gable Roof ( \theta &gt; 7^\circ ))</td>
<td>19.9 -34.6 21.8 -80.9</td>
<td>23.1 -36.8 23.1 -64.0 23.1 -94.6</td>
<td>24.3 -38.5 24.3 -67.1 24.3 -99.2</td>
<td>25.2 -40.0 25.2 -69.7 25.2 -103.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>17.3 -32.4 17.3 -49.0 17.3 -75.6</td>
<td>18.4 -34.4 18.4 -52.1 18.4 -80.3</td>
<td>19.3 -36.0 19.3 -54.6 19.3 -84.2</td>
<td>20.0 -37.4 20.0 -56.7 20.0 -87.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>16.0 -31.4 16.0 -44.2 16.0 -69.8</td>
<td>16.3 -33.3 16.3 -47.0 16.3 -74.2</td>
<td>17.1 -35.0 17.1 -49.2 17.1 -77.8</td>
<td>17.8 -36.3 17.8 -51.1 17.8 -80.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 (1.5 to 6:12)</td>
<td>34.6 -37.8 34.6 -44.2 34.6 -44.2</td>
<td>36.8 -40.2 36.8 -47.0 36.8 -47.0</td>
<td>38.5 -42.1 38.5 -49.2 38.5 -49.2</td>
<td>40.0 -43.7 40.0 -51.1 40.0 -51.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 (Gable Roof ( \theta &gt; 27^\circ ))</td>
<td>33.6 -35.9 33.6 -42.3 33.6 -42.3</td>
<td>35.7 -38.1 35.7 -44.9 35.7 -44.9</td>
<td>37.4 -39.9 37.4 -47.1 37.4 -47.1</td>
<td>38.9 -41.5 38.9 -48.9 38.9 -48.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 (6:12 to 12:12)</td>
<td>32.4 -33.3 32.4 -39.7 32.4 -39.7</td>
<td>34.4 -35.4 34.4 -42.2 34.4 -42.2</td>
<td>36.0 -37.1 36.0 -44.2 36.0 -44.2</td>
<td>37.4 -38.6 37.4 -46.0 37.4 -46.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** For Hip Roofs with angle > 7 degrees (1.5:12) and ≤ 25 degrees (5.5:12), Zone 3 shall be treated as Zone 2 (Figure 30.4.2B, Note 7, p. 337)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Wind Area (( ft^2 ))</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 15 feet</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 20 feet</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 25 feet</th>
<th>Mean Roof Height of 30 feet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 (Wall)</td>
<td>37.8 -41.0 37.8 -50.6</td>
<td>40.2 -43.6 40.2 -53.8</td>
<td>42.1 -45.7 42.1 -56.4</td>
<td>43.7 -47.4 43.7 -58.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>36.1 -39.4 36.1 -47.2</td>
<td>38.3 -41.7 38.3 -50.1</td>
<td>40.2 -43.8 40.2 -52.6</td>
<td>41.8 -45.5 41.8 -54.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>33.8 -37.0 33.8 -42.7</td>
<td>36.0 -39.4 36.0 -45.4</td>
<td>37.7 -41.3 37.7 -47.5</td>
<td>39.2 -42.9 39.2 -49.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>32.1 -35.3 32.1 -39.3</td>
<td>34.1 -37.5 34.1 -41.7</td>
<td>35.8 -39.4 35.8 -43.8</td>
<td>37.2 -40.9 37.2 -45.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>28.2 -31.4 28.2 -31.4</td>
<td>29.9 -33.3 29.9 -33.3</td>
<td>31.4 -35.0 31.4 -35.0</td>
<td>32.6 -36.3 32.6 -36.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Garage Door Wind Loads
for a Building with 30-foot Mean Roof Height
Exposure C
Tables 1609.7(1) & (2), and Section 1609.3.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Wind Area Width (( ft ))</th>
<th>Roof Angle (( \theta ))</th>
<th>Wind Load (( K_d ))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>35.2 -39.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>34.1 -38.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>32.3 -36.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>38.4 -43.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>36.8 -41.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Effective Wind Areas between those given, values may be interpolated. Otherwise use the value associated with the lower Effective Wind Area.

For Effective Wind Areas between those given, values may be interpolated. Otherwise use the value associated with the lower Effective Wind Area.

End Zone (a) shall be the smaller of 10% of Least Hor. Dist. or 40% of Mean Roof Height, but not less than 4% of Least Hor. Dist. or 3 ft.

Identify the zone per the figure or information by others. Any questionable zone is to be considered the more critical zone.

Design is based on the 3-second gust (wind velocity) for Risk Category II (general residential & commercial construction) per FBC 1620.2 Broward. These tables not for use with essential facilities or assembly occupancies.

Effective date; June 30, 2015
DATE: May 18, 2015

TO: All Building Officials

FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Solar Assisted Air Conditioning Systems.

At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Codes:

1. FBC, Mechanical Section 301.7 - Listed and Labeled,
2. FBC, Residential Section M1302.1 - Listed and Labeled,
3. FBC, Energy Conservation, Sections C403.2.3 and R405.5.2. HVAC equipment performance requirements.

Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.

The Board concurred with the Building Code Advisory Board of Palm Beach County Technical Advisory (attached) issued on 12/13/11.

Formal Interpretation:

The above sections are applicable to “solar assisted air conditioning systems” (a conventional air conditioning system with a solar heat collector placed between the compressor and the condensing coils) and such systems must obtain certification or successfully pass testing by State of Florida or a nationally recognized testing or certification agency prior to permitting.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 14, 2012
RE-ISSUED: May 14, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

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

Page 1 of 2  F.I #6
BCAB

Building Code Advisory Board of Palm Beach County

Subject: Solar-Assisted Air Conditioning System

This technical advisory is established as a “Public Awareness Notice” concerning a “Solar-Assisted A/C System” that modifies a factory matched air conditioning equipment system and that has been advertised recently in Palm Beach County. The creator of this hybrid system is promoting it, using several unsubstantiated claims regarding AHRI Certification, UL Listing, and dramatically improved SEER efficiency ratings.

This system should not be confused with other tested and certified air conditioning systems that incorporate solar photovoltaic panels into the electrical portion of their system. Unlike those designs, the “Solar-Assisted” portion of this system involves re-routing the refrigerant line up to the roof, and through a solar collector which is intended to “super heat” the gas prior to routing the line back to the condenser coil. There are many technical concerns with this design theory that prompted months of research by BCAB staff, the details of which are beyond the scope of this advisory.

However, there is specific information pertinent to the claims involving AHRI Certification, UL Listing, limitations on the pressures and approvals of solar panels, and dramatic increases in SEER efficiency that are worth noting:

1) Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute communications (attached – BCAB letter available on request)
2) Florida Solar Energy Center communications (attached)
3) Manufacturers – the original equipment manufacturers of the Air Condensing Units that were contacted by BCAB staff, stated that their warranties and the UL Listing of their equipment would be voided by this type of field alteration.

It is the duty and the responsibility of the building official to ensure that products are properly installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, certifications, and their listings. Installation of a system, that is not in compliance with listing and installation standards can lead to problems and invalidation of the warranty for the customer. When alternate materials, technologies, or designs are being proposed, it is incumbent on the applicant to provide enough information to substantiate the proposed alternative will comply with the code. The building official can request testing or other type of documentation when insufficient evidence is submitted at time of permitting. This firm has not demonstrated their claims with thorough and reliable science, engineering, testing, or demonstrated field applications. Due to the several above cited issues, and the extraordinary time spent by BCAB staff in the analysis of submitted materials that failed to substantiate the code-compliance of the hybrid system; the recommendation of the Board is that this system must obtain certification or successfully pass testing by a State of Florida or nationally recognized testing or certification agency, prior to permitting.

For Building Code Advisory Board

[Signature]

Jacques Tomasik, Chair

The Building Code Advisory Board of Palm Beach County was created by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature, at the request of the building code enforcement and construction industries. The purpose of the Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners and local governments concerning the adoption of building codes and their enforcement throughout the County. The Act also granted Palm Beach County special powers concerning building codes, in the interest of the public's health, safety and general welfare.

2300 North Jog Road · West Palm Beach, Florida 33411-2741 · 561-233-5101 · FAX 561-233-5020
DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro
Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Installation of 100% Wireless Network Low Voltage Alarm Systems.

At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation regarding 100% Wireless Network Low Voltage Alarm Systems, as follows.

INSTALLATION OF 100% WIRELESS NETWORK LOW VOLTAGE ALARM SYSTEMS, AND ANCILLARY COMPONENTS OR EQUIPMENT ATTACHED TO SUCH A SYSTEM, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO HOME–AUTOMATION EQUIPMENT, THERMOSTATS, AND VIDEO CAMERAS DOES NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT. THIS INTERPRETATION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE INSTALLATION OR REPLACEMENT OF A FIRE ALARM IF A PLAN REVIEW IS REQUIRED.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 10, 2014
RE-ISSUED: May 14, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

****PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER****
DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro
Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Retrofits required pursuant to Florida Building Code
Existing Building Section 708.8.1

Anchors not less than 1/8” by 1” steel strap nailed with 3- 16D nails installed
in accordance with previous additions of the South Florida Building Code
shall be deemed to comply with the minimum uplift capacity of 500 pounds as
specified in the Florida Building Code Existing Building Manual Section
708.8.1 for roof to wall connections for site-built single-family residential
structures.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 9, 2014
AMENDED & RE-ISSUED: May 14, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

*****PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER*****
DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro
Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Residential Clothes Washing Machines Drains.

At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the Florida Building Code 5th Edition (2014), Residential Section P2718.1

The interpretation is to clarify the use of a minimum 2 inch sanitary piping to drain clothes washing machines. The FBC, Residential Section P2718.1 is silent on the issue. The Board agrees with Building Officials Association on Florida Informal Interpretation #4939 and 6501.

Formal Interpretation:

FBC Residential Section P2718.1: The automatic clothes washing machine fixture drain shall connect to a branch drain or drainage stack a minimum of 2 inches in diameter.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 10, 2014
RE-ISSUED: May 14, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

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

FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#10)

DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: All Building Officials
FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director
SUBJECT: Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers

At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Codes:

1. FBC, Energy Conservation, Sections R101.4.7.

R101.4.7 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.
- 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 spaces.

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 5th Edition section R101.4.7. As consequence this application needs not meet the minimum SEER required in Section R303.1.2 and Table 405.5.2(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

****PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER****
DATE: May 18, 2015

TO: All Building Officials

FROM: James DiPietro, Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes.

At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Codes, Mechanical:

1. FBC, Mechanical Section 507.2.3

507.2.3 Domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes. Domestic cooking appliances utilized for commercial purposes shall be provided with Type I or Type II hoods as required for the type of appliances and processes in accordance with Sections 507.2, 507.2.1 and 507.2.2.

Formal Interpretation:

Notwithstanding of the frequency or type of use, in occupancies other that single family homes, duplexes, townhouses or apartments; a hood must be provided as required in the 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Codes, Mechanical Section 507.2.3.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2015

****PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER****
FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#12)

DATE:   July 9, 2015
TO:   All Building Officials
FROM:  James DiPietro
       Administrative Director
SUBJECT:  Windows Replacement

At its meeting of July 9, 2015 the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals approved the following interpretation.

When windows are replaced they may be exempt from the Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation, 5th Edition (2014).

In the Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation, 5th Edition (2014), C101.4.8 and R101.4.8 state: “Buildings exempt from the Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation, include existing buildings except those considered renovated buildings, changes of occupancy type, or previously unconditioned buildings to which comfort conditioning is added.”

Renovated Buildings is defined in C202 and R202 of the Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation, 5th Edition (2014) as: “A residential or nonresidential building undergoing alteration that varies or changes insulation, HVAC systems, water heating systems, or exterior envelope conditions, provided the estimated cost of renovation exceeds 30 percent of the assessed value of the structure.”

Considering these sections, replacement of windows (including any other renovation that may be going on) in an existing building that does not exceed 30 percent of the assessed value of the structure must comply with the requirements of the Florida Building Code, Existing Building but they do not need to comply with the Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation.

ISSUED:                  July 9, 2015
EFFECTIVE DATE:         June 30, 2015

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