



BROWARD COUNTY  
**BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS**

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**FORMAL**  
**INTERPRETATIONS**  
**FBC 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION**  
**(2014)**

# FLORIDA BUILDING CODE 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)

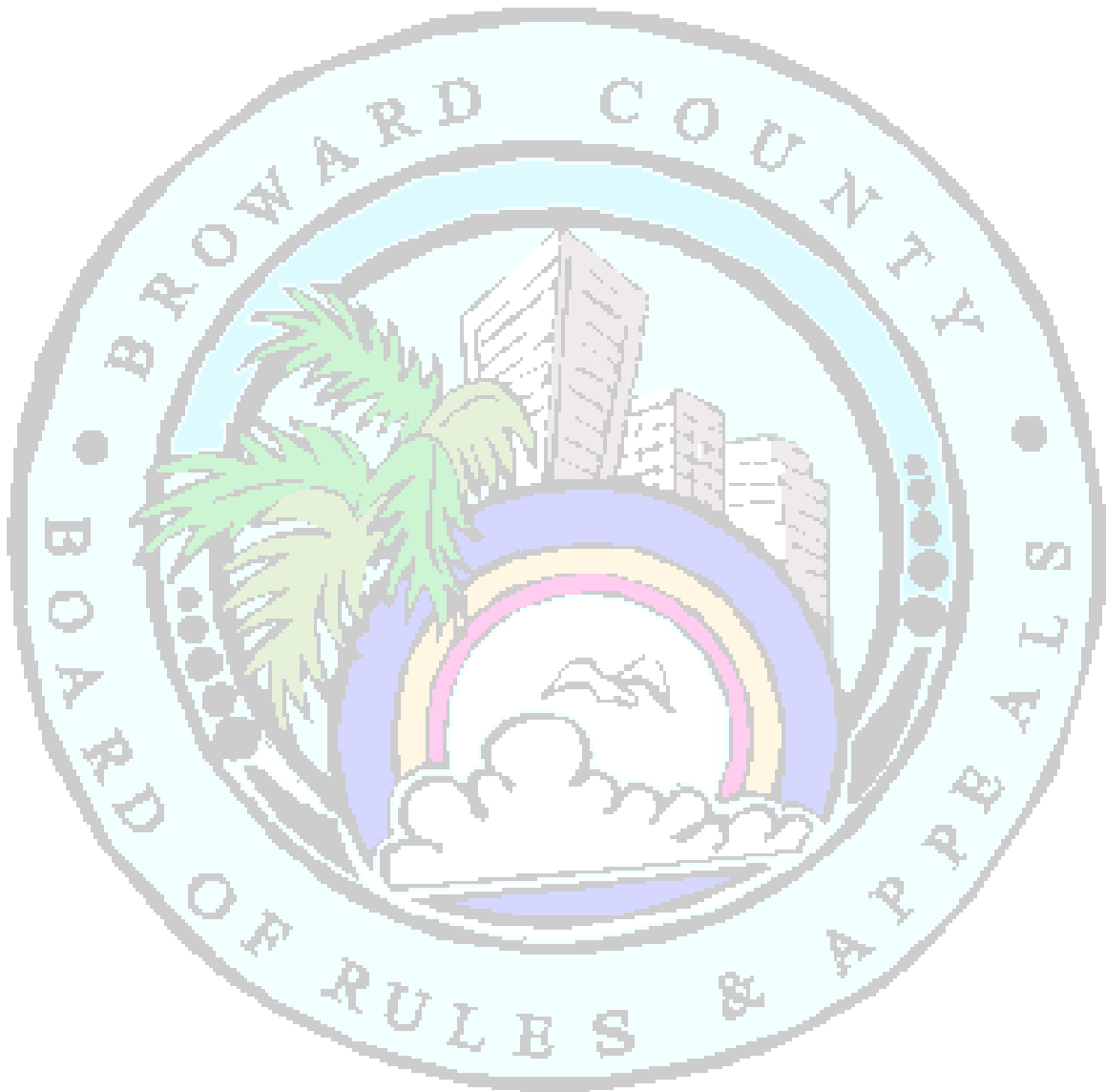
## FORMAL INTERPRETATIONS

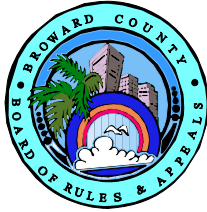
1. Mechanical Code, 602.2.1 Materials Exposed within Plenums
2. Identification of Mechanical Equipment
3. Attachments of Ductwork to Air Handling Equipment
4. Insulation Requirements for Primary Condensate Drains
5. Retrofit of Windows, Doors, Garage Doors, Shutters and Skylights  
FBC Existing Building, Alteration Level I
6. Solar Assisted Air Conditioning Systems
7. Installation of 100% Wireless Network Low Voltage Alarm Systems
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9. Residential Clothes Washing Machines Drains
10. Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers
11. Domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes
12. Window Replacement
13. Mechanical Equipment Wind Load Voluntary Design Pressure Chart
14. Reserved
15. Ceiling Grid Support for light fixtures
16. Interpretation of 5th edition (2014) Florida Building Code Mechanical: 301.15; Building: 453.25.4.5.1, 1609.1.1, 1620.1, 1620.6; Fuel Gas: 301.10.
17. Permit requirements for Florida Building Code, Plumbing Appendix F
18. Smoke Control System testing in existing buildings undergoing Level 2 alterations.
19. Acceptable testing methods for Smoke Control Systems.

# FLORIDA BUILDING CODE 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)

## FORMAL INTERPRETATIONS

20. Duct sizing calculations.
21. Acceptable documents for the attachment of mechanical equipment during replacement.
22. Two-Way Radio Communication Enhanced Public Safety Signal Booster Systems.






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## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (# 1)**

**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) and 0.75 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

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**Page 1 of 1 F.I.#1**

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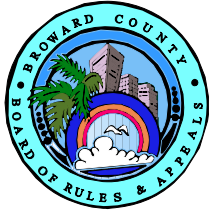
### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—



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## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#2)**

### **2015 Voting Members**

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Architect

**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:** Identification of Mechanical Equipment.

At the meeting of May 14, 2015 the Board approved an interpretation of Section 304.12, 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

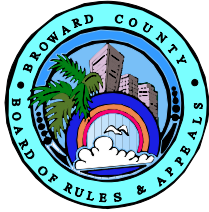
The purpose of these sections is to easily identify equipment for servicing and in case of an emergency. An example would be multiple installations of appliances on a roof top of an office building, condominium, apartment building, etc. There is no requirement for identification of appliances contained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

### **Formal Interpretation:**

Section 304.12, 5<sup>th</sup> 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

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

### **2015 Voting Members**

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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

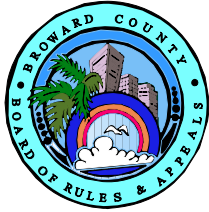
**RE-ISSUED:** March 1, 2009

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

**RE-ISSUED** May 14, 2015

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 30, 2015

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## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#4)**

### **2015 Voting Members**

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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:** 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."

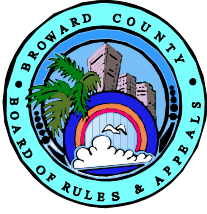
Questions have been raised about the code requirement to insulate condensate drains that were installed vertically or at an angle (pitched). All condensate drain lines are required to have a slope to insure proper drainage and therefore are not perfectly horizontal. The code does not address the insulation 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

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# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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


### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#5)**

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**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

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**Board Administrative Director**  
James DiPietro

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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

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**Page 1 of 2 F.I.#5**



## 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\*\* / Kd = 0.85 / Kzt = 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)

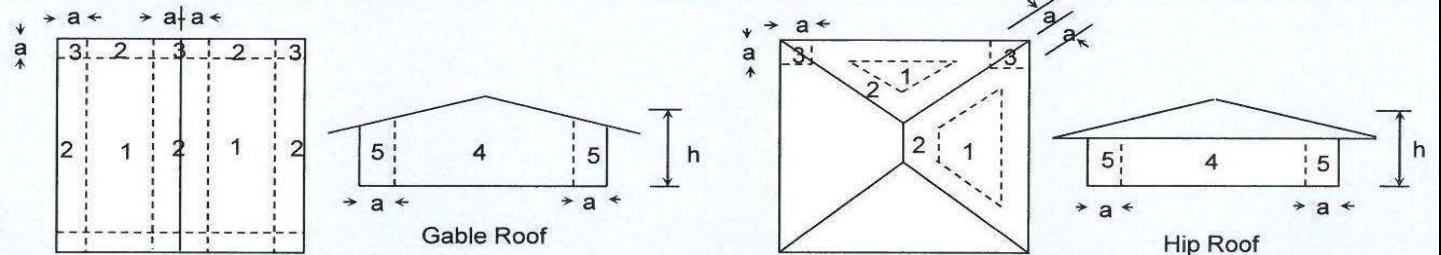
Effective Wind Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	Location: Gable or Hip Roof	Mean Roof Height of 15 feet						Mean Roof Height of 20 feet						Mean Roof Height of 25 feet						Mean Roof Height of 30 feet					
		Zone						Zone						Zone						Zone					
		1		2		3		1		2		3		1		2		3		1		2		3	
		+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-		
10	Gable/Hip Roof θ ≤ 7° (0 to 1.5:12)	16.0	-37.8	16.0	-63.4	16.0	-95.4	16.3	-40.2	16.3	-67.4	16.3	-101.4	17.1	-42.1	17.1	-70.6	17.1	-106.3	17.8	-43.7	17.8	-73.4	17.8	-110.4
20		16.0	-36.8	16.0	-56.7	16.0	-79.1	16.0	-39.1	16.0	-60.2	16.0	-84.0	16.0	-41.0	16.0	-63.1	16.0	-88.0	16.7	-42.6	16.7	-65.6	16.7	-91.5
50		16.0	-35.6	16.0	-47.7	16.0	-57.4	16.0	-37.8	16.0	-50.7	16.0	-61.0	16.0	-39.6	16.0	-53.2	16.0	-63.9	16.0	-41.1	16.0	-55.2	16.0	-66.4
100		16.0	-34.6	16.0	-41.0	16.0	-41.0	16.0	-36.8	16.0	-43.6	16.0	-43.6	16.0	-38.5	16.0	-45.7	16.0	-45.7	16.0	-40.0	16.0	-47.4	16.0	-47.4
10	Gable/Hip Roof*** 7° < θ ≤ 27° (1.5 to 6:12)	21.8	-34.6	21.8	-60.2	21.8	-89.0	23.1	-36.8	23.1	-64.0	23.1	-94.6	24.3	-38.5	24.3	-67.1	24.3	-99.2	25.2	-40.0	25.2	-69.7	25.2	-103.0
20		19.9	-33.6	19.9	-55.4	19.9	-83.3	21.1	-35.7	21.1	-58.9	21.1	-88.5	22.1	-37.4	22.1	-61.7	22.1	-92.7	23.0	-38.9	23.0	-64.1	23.0	-96.3
50		17.3	-32.4	17.3	-49.0	17.3	-75.6	18.4	-34.4	18.4	-52.1	18.4	-80.3	19.3	-36.0	19.3	-54.6	19.3	-84.2	20.0	-37.4	20.0	-56.7	20.0	-87.5
100		16.0	-31.4	16.0	-44.2	16.0	-69.8	16.3	-33.3	16.3	-47.0	16.3	-74.2	17.1	-35.0	17.1	-49.2	17.1	-77.8	17.8	-36.3	17.8	-51.1	17.8	-80.8
10	Gable Roof 27° < θ ≤ 45° (6 to 12:12)	34.6	-37.8	34.6	-44.2	34.6	-44.2	36.8	-40.2	36.8	-47.0	36.8	-47.0	38.5	-42.1	38.5	-49.2	38.5	-49.2	40.0	-43.7	40.0	-51.1	40.0	-51.1
20		33.6	-35.9	33.6	-42.3	33.6	-42.3	35.7	-38.1	35.7	-44.9	35.7	-44.9	37.4	-39.9	37.4	-47.1	37.4	-47.1	38.9	-41.5	38.9	-48.9	38.9	-48.9
50		32.4	-33.3	32.4	-39.7	32.4	-39.7	34.4	-35.4	34.4	-42.2	34.4	-42.2	36.0	-37.1	36.0	-44.2	36.0	-44.2	37.4	-38.6	37.4	-46.0	37.4	-46.0
100		31.4	-31.4	31.4	-37.8	31.4	-37.8	33.3	-33.3	33.3	-40.2	33.3	-40.2	35.0	-35.0	35.0	-42.1	35.0	-42.1	36.3	-36.3	36.3	-43.7	36.3	-43.7

\*\*\* 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)

Effective Wind Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	Location	Mean Roof Height of 15 feet				Mean Roof Height of 20 feet				Mean Roof Height of 25 feet				Mean Roof Height of 30 feet			
		Zone				Zone				Zone				Zone			
		4		5		4		5		4		5		4		5	
		+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
10	Wall	37.8	-41.0	37.8	-50.6	40.2	-43.6	40.2	-53.8	42.1	-45.7	42.1	-56.4	43.7	-47.4	43.7	-58.6
20		36.1	-39.3	36.1	-47.2	38.3	-41.7	38.3	-50.1	40.2	-43.8	40.2	-52.6	41.8	-45.5	41.8	-54.6
50		33.8	-37.0	33.8	-42.7	36.0	-39.4	36.0	-45.4	37.7	-41.3	37.7	-47.5	39.2	-42.9	39.2	-49.4
100		32.1	-35.3	32.1	-39.3	34.1	-37.5	34.1	-41.7	35.8	-39.4	35.8	-43.8	37.2	-40.9	37.2	-45.5
500		28.2	-31.4	28.2	-31.4	29.9	-33.3	29.9	-33.3	31.4	-35.0	31.4	-35.0	32.6	-36.3	32.6	-36.3

### 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

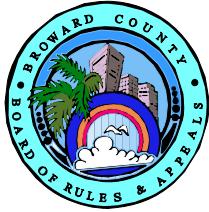


For Effective Wind Areas between those given, values may be interpolated. Otherwise use the value associated with the lower Effective Wind Area.

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.



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#6)**

### **2015 Voting Members**

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Architect

**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:** 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.
4. FBC, 5th Edition [2014] FBC Broward County Administrative Provisions, Section 104.32

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

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY

Issued on 12-13-11  
by Building Code Advisory Board

### 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.

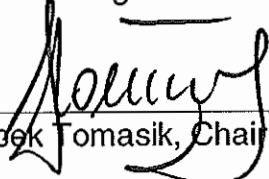
This system should not be confused with other tested and certified air conditioning systems that incorporate solar photovoltaic panels into the electrical portion of their system. Unlike those designs, the "Solar-Assisted" portion of this system involves re-routing the refrigerant line up to the roof, 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:

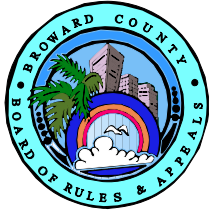
- 1) Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute communications (attached – BCAB letter available on request)
- 2) Florida Solar Energy Center communications (attached)
- 3) Manufacturers – the original equipment manufacturers of the Air Condensing Units that were contacted by BCAB staff, 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



Jacek Tomasiak, Chair



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

## **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#7)**

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Master Electrician  
Mr. William Flett,  
Roofing Contractor  
VACANT  
Architect

### **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: 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.

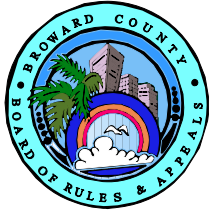
INSTALLATION OF 100% WIRELESS NETWORK LOW VOLTAGE ALARM SYSTEMS, AND ANCILLARY COMPONENTS OR EQUIPMENT ATTACHED TO SUCH A SYSTEM, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO HOME-AUTOMATION EQUIPMENT, THERMOSTATS, AND VIDEO CAMERAS DOES NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT. THIS INTERPRETATION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE INSTALLATION OR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

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## **FBC 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#8)**

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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:** 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.

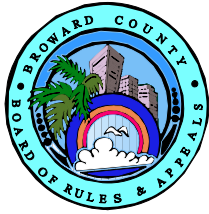
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 9, 2014

**AMENDED & RE-ISSUED:** May 14, 2015

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 30, 2015

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**Page 1 of 1 F.I #8**



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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

### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#9)**

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Vacant  
Architect

**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: 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

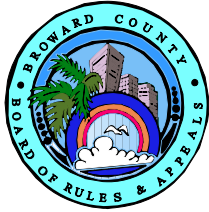
The interpretation is to clarify the use of a minimum 2 inch sanitary piping to drain clothes washing machines. The FBC, Residential Section P2718.1 is silent on the issue. The Board agrees with Building Officials Association on Florida Formal Interpretations 4939 and 6501.

#### **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

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# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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

### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#10)**

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Fax: 954-765-4504

www.broward.org/codeappeals

**DATE:** May 18, 2015

**TO:** All Building Officials

**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director

**SUBJECT:** Recessed Ceiling Air Handlers

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VACANT  
Architect

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

**Board Administrative Director**  
James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its regular meeting of May 14, 2015, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following 5<sup>th</sup> 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:**

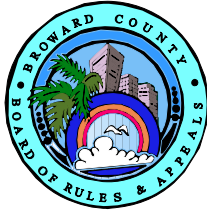
4. Replacement equipment that would require extensive revisions to other systems, equipment or elements of a building where such replacement is a like-for-like replacement, such as through-the-wall condensing units and PTACs, chillers, and cooling towers in confined spaces.

**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

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## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#11)**

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VACANT  
Architect


### **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:** 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

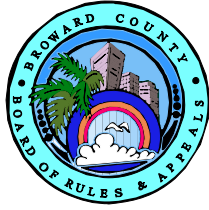
### **Formal Interpretation:**

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

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 30, 2015

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# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014) Energy Conservation Code FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#12)**

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Vacant  
Architect


### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

**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, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)*.

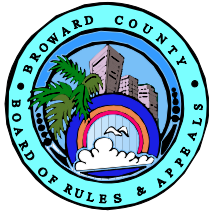
In the *Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)*, C101.4.8 and R101.4.8 state: "Buildings exempt from the *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*, include existing buildings **except those considered renovated buildings**, changes of occupancy type, or previously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

**Renovated Buildings** is defined in C202 and R202 of the *Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation, 5<sup>th</sup> 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

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# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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

### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#13)**

One North University Drive  
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Plantation, Florida 33324

Phone: 954-765-4500

Fax: 954-765-4504

www.broward.org/codeappeals

**DATE:** October 8, 2015

**TO:** All Building Officials

**FROM:** James DiPietro,  
Administrative Director

**SUBJECT:** Mechanical Equipment Wind Load Voluntary Design Pressure Chart

#### **2015 Voting Members**

Mr. Ron Burr  
Chair  
Mr. Jeffrey Lucas, Deputy Fire Chief  
Vice-Chair  
Fire Service Professional  
Mr. Gregg D'Attilio  
Mechanical Contractor  
Mr. John Famularo  
Roofing Contractor  
Mrs. Shalanda Giles Nelson  
General Contractor  
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Structural Engineer  
Vacant  
Master Plumber  
Mr. Allan Kozich, P.E.  
Electrical Engineer  
Vacant  
Consumer Advocate  
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Mr. John Sims  
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Mechanical Engineer  
Mr. Abbas H. Zackria, CSI  
Architect

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Fire Service  
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Mr. David Tringo  
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Mr. William Flett  
Roofing Contractor  
Vacant  
Architect

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

**Board Administrative Director**  
James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its meeting of October 8, 2015, the Board approved an interpretation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition FBC Existing Building, 503.1 Alteration Level 1, FMC 301.15, and FBC Ch. 16.

#### **Formal Interpretation:**

To obtain the required design pressure for any mechanical equipment, at a specific site, an individual must use one of the following options and submit documentation as indicated.

- a) A site-specific plan (signed and sealed) by a Florida Professional Engineer indicating the location of mechanical equipment and the required design pressures.
- b) A site-specific plan (not sealed) or written description, indicating the location of mechanical equipment accompanied by a worst case design pressure chart (signed and sealed) prepared by a Florida P.E.
- c) A site-specific plan (not sealed) or written description, indicating the location of mechanical equipment and indicating the required design pressures based on the Broward County Mechanical Equipment Wind Load Voluntary Design Pressure Chart. (See attached chart).

All permit applications must be accompanied by evidence acceptable to the AHJ that the mechanical equipment and its installation complies with FMC 301.15 and the design pressures as determined by one of the above methods.

Mechanical equipment located at a height more than 100 feet shall comply with FMC 301.15, have a site-specific design (signed and sealed) by a Florida Professional Engineer, indicating the location of mechanical equipment, the required design pressures and the installation method.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 9, 2015

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

## Broward County - Wind Load Design Pressures For Mechanical Equipment (HVHZ only)\*

\* Using Allowable Stress Design methodology (P = 0.6w)

### Per ASCE 7-10 Chapter 29, Design Loads for Other Structures, and Florida Building Code Fifth Edition (2014)

Wind 170 mph (3-second gust) / Exposure C-D\*\* / Kzt = 1.0  
 K<sub>d</sub> = 0.90 for square shaped units / K<sub>d</sub> = 0.95 for round, hexagonal & octagonal shaped units  
 \*\* Exposure shall be determined according to ASCE 7-10 Section 26.7.3 (Exposure Categories)

#### GROUND-MOUNTED APPLICATIONS

##### Exposure 'C' (Non-Coastal)

Mounting Height	Unit Size		Wind Load Design Pressures		
	Width/Diameter	Height	Square	Hexagonal, Octagonal	Round
GROUND	24 – 60 IN	24 – 60 IN	39 PSF	32 PSF	16 PSF

##### Exposure 'D' (Coastal)

Mounting Height	Unit Size		Wind Load Design Pressures		
	Width/Diameter	Height	Square	Hexagonal, Octagonal	Round
GROUND	24 – 60 IN	24 – 60 IN	47 PSF	39 PSF	20 PSF

#### ROOFTOP-MOUNTED APPLICATIONS

##### Exposure 'C' (Non-Coastal)

Mounting Height Above Grade	Unit Size		Wind Load Design Pressures		
	Width/Diameter	Height		Square	Round, Hex/Octagonal
15 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	112 PSF	118 PSF
			UPLIFT	55 PSF	58 PSF
20 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	118 PSF	124 PSF
			UPLIFT	57 PSF	60 PSF
30 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	126 PSF	133 PSF
			UPLIFT	61 PSF	65 PSF
40 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	133 PSF	140 PSF
			UPLIFT	65 PSF	68 PSF
50 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	139 PSF	146 PSF
			UPLIFT	67 PSF	71 PSF
60 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	144 PSF	152 PSF
			UPLIFT	70 PSF	74 PSF
70 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	148 PSF	156 PSF
			UPLIFT	72 PSF	76 PSF
80 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	152 PSF	160 PSF
			UPLIFT	74 PSF	78 PSF
90 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	156 PSF	164 PSF
			UPLIFT	76 PSF	80 PSF
100 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	159 PSF	168 PSF
			UPLIFT	77 PSF	81 PSF

##### Exposure 'D' (Coastal)

Mounting Height Above Grade	Unit Size		Wind Load Design Pressures		
	Width/Diameter	Height		Square	Round, Hex/Octagonal
15 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	135 PSF	142 PSF
			UPLIFT	65 PSF	69 PSF
20 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	140 PSF	148 PSF
			UPLIFT	68 PSF	72 PSF
30 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	148 PSF	157 PSF
			UPLIFT	72 PSF	76 PSF
40 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	155 PSF	164 PSF
			UPLIFT	75 PSF	79 PSF
50 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	160 PSF	169 PSF
			UPLIFT	78 PSF	82 PSF
60 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	165 PSF	174 PSF
			UPLIFT	80 PSF	85 PSF
70 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	169 PSF	179 PSF
			UPLIFT	82 PSF	87 PSF
80 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	173 PSF	183 PSF
			UPLIFT	84 PSF	89 PSF
90 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	176 PSF	186 PSF
			UPLIFT	86 PSF	90 PSF
100 FT	< 60 IN	< 60 IN	LATERAL	179 PSF	189 PSF
			UPLIFT	87 PSF	92 PSF

#### GENERAL NOTES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR TABLE USE:

1. Design is based on the Florida Building Code (FBC) Fifth Edition (2014) using ASCE 7-10 "other structures - tanks" calculation of a 3-second gust (wind velocity) per ASCE section 29.4, 29.5, or FBC section 1620.6 for a category II (general residential & commercial construction) installation. These tables not for use with essential facilities or assembly occupancies. Topographic factor kzt=1.0 for flat terrain use only. Tables use 'ASD' design method.
2. No certification is offered for the integrity of the host structure.
3. Tables are intended to depict the 'worst case' design pressure. 'Worst case' is defined as the critical condition of any unknown variable as described herein. Use of critical conditions required for use with these tables. Deviations require site specific evaluation.
4. Use of this drawing assumes the following criteria:
  - Permanent attachment to the existing structure (attachment method and integrity of host structure certified by others)
  - The unit is not located in a region susceptible to channeling effects or buffeting in the wake of upwind obstructions.

5. It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that the mounting method meets or exceeds the requirements of the aforementioned building code which shall be provided per separate certification.
6. Always round down unit width/depth dimensions and/or round up unit height dimension to the worst-case table value or to a conservative assumption.
7. Use any combination of unit sizes, provided base attachment certification is approved for that configuration. When considering multiple sizes, utilize minimum unit depth/width along with maximum unit height to determine required design pressure from these tables.
8. Read off required pressures (for ground-mounted applications, pressures act laterally upon vertical windward faces in any direction; for rooftop applications, pressures act as specified in table).
9. For use only as required by the local municipality in accordance with code.



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#15)**

ONE NORTH UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
SUITE 3500-B  
PLANTATION, FLORIDA 33324

PHONE: 954-765-4500

FAX: 954-765-4504

[www.broward.org/codeappeal](http://www.broward.org/codeappeal)

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Fire Service Professional

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VACANT

Architect

#### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

#### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

**DATE: MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**TO All Building Officials.**

**FROM: Kenneth Castronovo. CECCO**

**SUBJECT: Formal Interpretation Section 808.1.1.1 of the 5th Edition (2014) of the Florida Building Code relating to Ceiling Grid Support for light fixtures**

---

Per NEC 410.36, when lighting fixtures are installed in acoustical ceiling grids, they must be securely fastened to the grid. The FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Section 808.1.1.1 requires ceiling grids to be installed as per ASTM C635 and ASTM C636. ASTM C635 is the standard for manufacturer's grid design. ASTM C635 Section 4 explains grid strength types such as light, medium and heavy duty and it also describes the allowable load to be applied to each grid type. ASTM C635 4.3 states the manufacturer is responsible for the design of the specified system. ASTM C636 explains the standard installation requirements. ASTM C636 Section 2.7 specifies the installation of lay in light fixtures in a grid ceiling. Depending on the load and the type of grid ceiling that is being used, there are three ways to support a lay in light fixture:

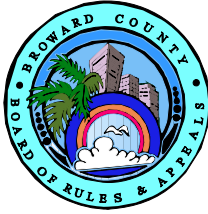
- 1) By fastening it to the grid per fixture manufacturer's instruction, NEC 410.36(B) and ASTM C636 2.7.1 where installing a light fixture does not compromise the design or strength of the ceiling.
- 2) By adding additional hanger wires on the grid at the four corners of the grid within 6" of the fixtures where it is determined that more support is needed to support additional loads per ASTM C636 2.7.2.
- 3) Per ASTM C2636 2.7.2, by independently supporting the fixtures from the grid where the weight of the fixture is determined to be too great for the selected grid to meet the deflection requirement.

#### **Formal Interpretation.**

A support detail shall be provided on the Ceiling Grid Plan Pages indicating the method of support of lay-in light fixtures, ceiling fans, ventilator fans, and other ceiling mounted equipment or fixtures based on the lay-in ceiling system manufacturer's load capabilities for the selected grid used. The detail shall be provided by the design Professional or the manufacturer.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

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



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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

### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#16)**

One North University Drive  
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Architect


#### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

#### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

**DATE:** September 9, 2016  
**TO:** All Building Officials.  
**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director   
**SUBJECT:** Interpretation of 5<sup>th</sup> edition (2014) Florida Building Code  
**Mechanical: 301.15; Building: 453.25.4.5.1, 1609.1.1, 1620.1, 1620.6; Fuel Gas: 301.10.**

At its regular meeting of September 8, 2016, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the following Exception:

“Exposed mechanical equipment or appliances fastened to a roof or installed on the ground in compliance with the code using rated stands, platforms, curbs, slabs, walls, or other means are deemed to comply with the wind resistance requirements of the 2007 Florida Building Code, as amended. Further support or enclosure of such mechanical equipment or appliances is not required by a state or local official having authority to enforce the Florida Building Code.”

This Exception was included in the glitch language, adopted into the Florida Building Code, 5th Edition (2014); by the Florida Building Commission on June 8, 2016, as a result of HB 535-2016.

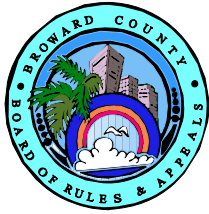
#### **Formal interpretation**

1. Mechanical equipment or appliances themselves, are not required to demonstrate compliance with the wind load requirements of the Florida Building Code and no other shielding, sheltering, or reinforcement of the equipment of appliance is required.
2. Notwithstanding Item 1 above, the mechanical equipment or appliances shall be adequately anchored to the rated stands, platforms, curbs, slabs, walls, or other means of support to resist the wind loads of the 2007 Florida Building Code.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: September 9, 2016**

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

**Page 1 of 1 F.I. #16**



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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Phone: 954-765-4500  
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www.broward.org/codeappeals

## **FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)** **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#17)**

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Mr. William Flett,  
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#### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

#### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

**DATE:** May 11, 2017  
**TO:** All Building Officials   
**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director  
**SUBJECT:** Permit requirements for Florida Building Code,  
Plumbing Appendix F

At its regular meeting of May 11, 2017 the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of the Florida Building Code 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014), Plumbing Appendix F Part 1 B.1 Permits required and B.2 Exceptions.

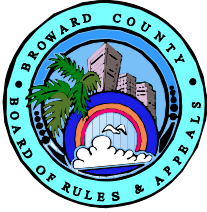
The interpretation is to clarify that a permit is not required for the installation of irrigation for golf courses.

### **Formal Interpretation:**

**FBC, Plumbing Appendix F Part 1: A permit is not required for the installation of irrigation systems for golf courses.**

**Effective Date:** May 12, 2017

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



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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


### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#18)**

One North University Drive  
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Plantation, Florida 33324

Phone: 954-765-4500

Fax: 954-765-4504

www.broward.org/codeappeals

**DATE:** May 11, 2017  
**TO:** All Building Officials  
**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director   
**SUBJECT:** Smoke Control System testing in existing buildings  
undergoing Level 2 alterations.

#### **2017 Voting Members**

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Fire Service Professional

##### **Vice-Chair**

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Representative Disabled Community

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Mechanical Engineer

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Mr. William Flett,  
Roofing Contractor

#### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

#### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its meeting of May 11, 2017, the Board approved an interpretation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition FBC.

Formal Interpretation of the following sections:

FBC Existing Buildings SECTION 504 ALTERATION—LEVEL 2;

FBC Existing Buildings 801.2 Alteration Level 1 compliance;

FBC Existing Buildings 701.2 Conformance;

FMC 513.3 Special inspection and test requirements;

FMC 513.18 Acceptance testing;

FMC 513.19 System acceptance;

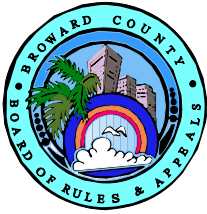
FBC 909.3 Special inspection and test requirements.

#### **Formal Interpretation:**

**In existing buildings undergoing Level 2 alterations, including tenant improvements, the Engineer of Record shall state if testing of the existing Smoke Control System is required and the type of test to be performed.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 12, 2017

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BROWARD COUNTY  
BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

**FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)**

**FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#19)**

One North University Drive  
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Plantation, Florida 33324

Phone: 954-765-4500

Fax: 954-765-4504

www.broward.org/codeappeals

**DATE:** May 11, 2017  
**TO:** All Building Officials  
**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director  
**SUBJECT:** Acceptable testing methods for Smoke Control Systems.

**2017 Voting Members**

**Chair**

Mr. Jeffrey Lucas, FM, CFI, CFEI  
Fire Service Professional

**Vice-Chair**

Mr. Kenneth B. Wynn  
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Mechanical Engineer

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Mr. William Flett,  
Roofing Contractor

**Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

**Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its meeting of May 11, 2017, the Board approved an interpretation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition FBC.

Formal Interpretation of the following sections:  
FMC 513.3 Special inspection and test requirements;  
FMC 513.18 Acceptance testing;  
FMC 513.19 System acceptance;  
FBC 909.3 Special inspection and test requirements.

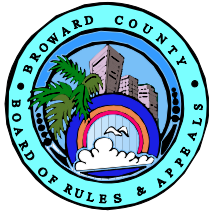
**Formal Interpretation:**

**As part of the procedures and methods to be used in testing a Smoke Control System, the Engineer of Record shall be able to use any measurable and certifiable method of generating smoke, including smoke generating machines.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 12, 2017

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





BROWARD COUNTY  
BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

**FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)**

**FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#20)**

One North University Drive  
Suite 3500-B  
Plantation, Florida 33324

Phone: 954-765-4500

Fax: 954-765-4504

www.broward.org/codeappeals

**DATE:** May 11, 2017  
**TO:** All Building Officials  
**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director  
**SUBJECT:** Duct sizing calculations.

**2017 Voting Members**

**Chair**

Mr. Jeffrey Lucas, FM, CFI, CFEI  
Fire Service Professional

**Vice-Chair**

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Representative Disabled Community

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**Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

**Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

—ESTABLISHED 1971—

At its meeting of May 11, 2017, the Board approved an interpretation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition FBC.

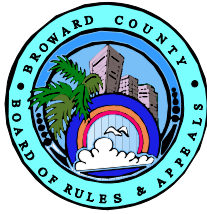
Formal Interpretation of the following sections:  
FMC 603.2 Duct sizing.  
FBC Residential M1601.1 Duct design.

**Formal Interpretation**

**Duct sizing calculations are not necessary to be submitted to the Authority Having Jurisdiction as part of the permitting process, if the design document showing duct sizes, is signed and sealed by the Engineer of Record or signed by the Mechanical or Air Conditioned Contractor, as allowed by Florida Statutes 471 and 489.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 12, 2017

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



# BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

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

### **FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#21)**

One North University Drive  
Suite 3500-B  
Plantation, Florida 33324

Phone: 954-765-4500

Fax: 954-765-4504

www.broward.org/codeappeals

**DATE:** May 11, 2017  
**TO:** All Building Officials  
**FROM:** James DiPietro, Administrative Director  
**SUBJECT:** Acceptable documents for the attachment of mechanical equipment during replacement.

#### **2017 Voting Members**

##### **Chair**

Mr. Jeffrey Lucas, FM, CFI, CFEI  
Fire Service Professional

##### **Vice-Chair**

Mr. Kenneth B. Wynn  
Representative Disabled Community  
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Structural Engineer

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Swimming Pool Contractor

Mr. John Sims,  
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VACANT

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Mechanical Engineer

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#### **Board Attorney**

Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

#### **Board Administrative Director**

James DiPietro

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At its meeting of May 11, 2017, the Board approved an interpretation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition FBC.

#### **Formal Interpretation of the following sections:**

FBC 5th Edition, Building Section 105.3.1.5.3 of Broward County Administrative Provisions.

#### **Formal Interpretation.**

For the replacement of an existing mechanical system, in which the work does not require altering a structural part of the building, or for work on a residential one-family, two-family, three-family or four-family structure, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall accept documents from the following sources:

1. Original signed and sealed engineered drawings.
2. Miami Dade Notice of Acceptance, complete sets of copies.
3. Florida Product Approval, complete sets of copies.
4. Equipment manufacturer's anchoring details, showing compliance with the wind speeds as provided by FBC 1620 for Broward County.

For commercial replacements, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall accept documents from the following sources:

1. Original signed and sealed engineered drawings.
2. Miami Dade Notice of Acceptance, complete sets of copies.
3. Florida Product Approval, complete sets of copies.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 12, 2017

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

**Page 1 of 1 F.I.#21**



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[www.broward.org/codeappeal](http://www.broward.org/codeappeal)

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BROWARD COUNTY  
BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS  
**FBC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2014)**  
**FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#22)**

**DATE:** October 12, 2017

**TO:** All Building Officials

**FROM:** James DiPietro   
Administrative Director

**SUBJECT:** Two-Way Radio Communication Enhanced Public Safety  
Signal Booster Systems.

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At its regular meeting of October 12, 2017, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved an interpretation of Chapter 1, Section 118, titled Two-Way Radio Communication Enhanced Public Safety Signal Booster Systems, as follows:

Plans shall be signed and sealed by a licensed professional engineer. The engineer of record shall be responsible for the system. The engineer of record shall specify the brand and the model number of the bi-directional amplifier (BDA), the antenna and the component parts.

It is recognized that presently there is no listing approval for BDA systems by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

This Formal Interpretation shall remain in effect until six (6) months after the UL sets this listing approval

Adopted Date: October 12, 2017

Effective Date: October 13, 2017

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