



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 6098**



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Section 1009.10

Question:

Is it the intent of FBC 1009.10 to require railings on both sides of a set of steps that is not a means of egress pathway with 4" risers and 12.5" treads with a total of 14 treads.

Answer

Yes. All stairs are required to meet the construction provisions for means of egress as a matter of occupant safety.

Commentary:

Florida Building Code - Building Chapter 10 is titled "MEANS OF EGRESS" not "REQUIRED Means Of Egress". All stairs are part of a means of egress, perhaps not the MAIN means of egress but nevertheless a component of egress from a specific area. Chapter 10 provides the only standard in the building codes for designing and inspecting any set of stairs whether the stairs are "required" or just "convenience"; stairs.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.