



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 6780**



Date June 23, 2011

Edition 2007

Section 708.1

Question:

Is it the intent of Section 708.1, Exception #1 to allow adjacent tenant spaces without requiring a separation wall between them to be fire rated providing the total area of the spaces does not exceed 3,000 s.f. and to allow this exception in any Group B occupancy, whether the building is a single classification of Group B or mixed classification?

Answer

Yes. As long as the tenants are both Group B and the total combined square footage of the two tenants does not exceed 3,000 square feet, no tenant separate is required under 708.1.

Commentary:

It is immaterial that there are other occupancy groups outside of the 3,000 square foot area. The only adjacent tenant spaces that may benefit from 708.1.7 ex.1 are Group B and S Occupancies.

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.