



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 6997**



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Section 709.1 Exception 4

Question:

Is it the intent of 709.1 Exception 4 that any tenant space in any occupancy classification in a multi tenant facility (for example a high rise multi-tenant office building) that walls used to separate individual tenant spaces regardless of occupancy classification are not required to have a fire resistance rating (for example a 1 hour rated demising partition in a Group B - Business Occupancy) ?

Answer

Yes.

This Exception is for any Occupancy other than dwelling units or sleeping units (i.e Residential) in a building protected by a NFPA 13 Automatic Sprinkler system.

Commentary:

Exception 1 applies to B and S Occupancies, without fire sprinkler protection. Exception 4 applies to occupancies within buildings with an automatic sprinkler system.

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.