



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7059**



Date August 13, 2012

Edition 2010

Section 1021

Question:

Is it the intent of section 1021 exception 3 to allow the required stairs off of the second floor of a business occupancy to not be in a rated enclosure if they meet the travel distance requirements in section 1016?

Answer

Yes. Exit Access Stairs do not have requirements for fire rated enclosure (that would be an Exit Stair enclosure). If your Building has an automatic sprinkler system all access from the second story can be via Exit Access Stairs; otherwise 50%. Exit Access Stairs can be a vertical component of a compliant Means of Egress.

Commentary:

The stories cannot be open to each other.

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.