



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7108



Date November 28, 2012

Edition 2010

Section R307

Question:

What is the intent of code regarding room requirements for a bathroom? The code does not state if it is required for bathroom fixtures to be within a room. The 1997 SBCCI, Section 302.2 clearly states that water closet, tub, shower and lavatory shall be located in a room affording privacy.... There is no similar reference in the Florida Building Code Residential. Applicant wishes to install a lavatory and watercloset on a pool deck and provide privacy by 2 walls of the house and 2 walls by a movable screen made of wood or other material.

Answer

R201.4 Terms not defined directs you to the Webster Third New International Dictionary of the English Language. As defined in the dictionary. Watercloset- A compartment or room with a toilet. What you use to create this compartment or room is not defined, however the construction still needs to meet the requirements of the FBC. Three things to consider: [1] are the fixtures listed for outdoor use? [2] will the fixtures remain in place during a storm event? [3] if the property is in a flood zone will this have an affect on the elevation requirements of the plumbing fixtures?

Commentary:

If the walls are made of "movable screen made of wood or other material" and not designed to withstand the wind pressures for the area, the fixtures must be secured to ensure they remain in place during a storm event.

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.