



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7341



Date June 24, 2014

Edition 2010

Section 303.1 Ex1

Question:

When classifying a small assembly use, less than 50, as a Business Occupancy (Group B) by way of FBC-B 303.1 exception (1), does section 403.2 Separate facilities, Exception (3) of the Florida Building Code - Plumbing apply?

Answer

The answer is going to be up to the AHJ for the application of the code. That said, the answer is probably yes. FBC,

Plumbing section 403.1 refers the FBC, Building code for Occupancy class. FBC, Building section 303.1 exception 1 may classify the occupancy as business. Please see the

commentary below for the detailed information.

Commentary:

Looking at the occupant loads allowed for a gym with no equipment may change the application. This question refers to an occupant load of a gym with (fixed) equipment.

Pilates would probably not require fixed equipment, but, would be held in an open space. The formula for dividing the square footage by the square feet required per person gives us $1712/15 = 115$ occupants. The exception under the

FBC-P403.2 exception # 3 would not apply, if there is no (fixed) equipment.

The other issue is if this is a gym where Pilates is being taught, with an instructor, it becomes a business usage, personal care. When looking at using $1712/100 = 18$ occupants. If interpretation of the area falls under this scenario, the FBC-P 403.2 exception #3 would apply.

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.