



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7525**



Date July 07, 2015

Edition 2010

Section 1008.1.1 and 1008.1.2

Question:

Is it the intent of the code to require the clear opening of the sliding panel to meet the minimum opening width of 41 1/2 inches even when the door breakaway feature when opened will provide the complying opening width?

Answer

No, for this specific case.

Commentary:

The breakaway feature hardware - for the trained personal working in an ICU is "readily openable ... without the use of a key or special knowledge". Although the 1008.1.9.5 states "unlatching of any door or leaf shall not require more than one operation", (and the description of the system indicates two operations are necessary (open the first door, push the 2 doors)) - 1008.1.4. although it is titled "Power-operated doors", recognizes 2 operations are necessary to open the 2 leafs of the breakout door.

Please note: The requestor notes the doors swing into the room (emergency entry into the ICO), however the code speaks of egress - swinging out. This should be addressed with the AHJ.

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.