



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7547**



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Edition 2010

Section R322

Question:

Is it the intent of R322 to require single family residences to be elevated 1 ft above the BFE as defined on the jurisdictions FIRM maps?

Answer

Yes, if it is in a floodway. 322.1 exception states "Buildings or structures located in whole or part in identified floodways shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ASCE 24."

Commentary:

The design is required to comply with ASCE 24 provided the structure is in an identified floodway. (s.R301.2.4, s.R322.1) However, the question indicates all SFRs and does not specify a flood zone category or that the structure is in a floodway. The additional 1 foot elevation may not always be required by the code except in Coastal A Zones. In Coastal A Zones, the lowest floor is required by the code to be elevated to or above the BFE plus one foot or to the

design elevation, whichever is higher. In flood hazard areas not designated as Coastal A Zones, the floor is required to be elevated to or above the design flood elevation. Local flood ordinances may also require additional elevation.

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.