



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7592**



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Section 303

Question:

Is it the intent for small restaurants (food and Drink) under 50 occupants to be classified as B Business. When figuring out the occupant load (Sec 1004.1.2) do I use 1 per 100 gross SF (Business) or 1 per 15sf for concentrated tables and chairs.

Answer

Yes to the first question. Under 303.1.1 if the occupant load is under 50, then an assembly space shall be classified as a Group B Occupancy.

To the second question, Table 1004.1.2 is independently applied from the occupancy classification in Chapter 3. Classification within this table is based on the function of the space. If the space in question would normally be used as table and chair seating, like most restaurant uses, then it is appropriate to apply the 1 per 15 ratio. Other areas of the space, such as the kitchen, will have different occupant load factors applied.

Commentary:

None

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.