



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7698**



Date January 13, 2016

Edition 2014

Section 1029.1

Question:

Is it the intent of Section 1029.1, by deleting the exception allowing emergency escape and rescue of an R-2 sleeping area from a screened lanai, to disallow escaping onto the dwelling unit's private open lanai or porch? Or does the dwelling unit's private lanai or porch qualify for exception #2 if it leads to the components listed for that exception?

Answer

While we went back to the FBC-B 2004 and could not find the exception referred to as deleted by the requester, the FBC-R contains such an exception that is the codification of a Declaratory Statement by the Florida Building Commission.

1029.1 refers to R-2; Exception 2 refers to 1019 Egress Balconies. The DEC Statement to allow use of screen porches and lanais as an allowable path of egress applies to the first floor of an R-3 occupancy. The Building Official may extend the logic to R-2 if they feel it is appropriate.

1019.3 Openness.

The long side of an egress balcony shall be at least 50 percent open, and the open area above the guards shall be so distributed as to minimize the accumulation of smoke or toxic gases.

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.