



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7702



Date December 22, 2015

Edition 2014

Section 202 - Exterior Wall

Question:

A parking garage has a fire wall immediately adjacent to a restaurant kitchen; the kitchen has its own non-rated wall adjacent to the fire wall. Are either of the walls considered an exterior wall per FBC?

Answer

They are exterior walls only if enclosing the building from the outdoors.

Commentary:

If there is a lot line between the garage and kitchen the opening between them is prohibited - 706.1.1. Based on the comment to the question and since the kitchen has its own wall, it does not sound as though the walls are on a lot line or that the fire wall is used or adapted for joint service between buildings. If that is the case, the prohibition against openings of Section 706.1.1 does not apply. If the kitchen has fuel fired equipment 406.4.7 applies.

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.