



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7865



Date November 09, 2016

Edition 2014

Section 903.2.9 #5

Question:

Is it the intent of item #5 to affect Self Storage properties when it appears the changes made at the same time all related to Manufacturers and Retailers of Upholstered Furniture and Mattresses? Also since this item did not address a fire area and only the occupancy some have interpreted this addition (in 2014) to be applied to any building over 2500 sq ft and not allow the use of a fire wall per FBC 706.

Answer

Yes, please see the attached commentary. This applies to self-storage facilities unless there is a method to ensure that upholstered furniture and mattresses are not stored in the self-storage facility. (See our other recent informal interpretation on this issue.)

Commentary:

If Fire Walls were utilized to separate areas into less than 2,500 square foot areas, thereby creating separate buildings of less than 2,500 square feet, then this section would not apply.

Fire Area is inapplicable to this issue as a fire wall must be utilized to create separate buildings, not a fire barrier wall. In addition "fire area" is not used in this #5.

Note: The FFPC also has provisions addressing self-storage facilities with a similar fire sprinkler threshold to the FFPC that should also be consulted.

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.