



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7910



Date July 12, 2017

Edition 2014

Section Definitions

Question:

By definition in the 5th edition of the residential building code, does a living area/space have to be heated and cooled?

If it does have to be a heated and cooled area, can you direct me to the location where it is clarified?

Answer

Refer to Code section R303.9 which requires a dwelling to have heat. There is nothing on air conditioning. A dwelling either has to have natural ventilation or mechanical ventilation (air flow) it does not have to be cold. The heat cannot be provided by a portable source.

Commentary:

Section R303 which is where the heating and ventilation requirements come from. In R303.1 the word that is used is "Habitable Rooms" not "living Areas". The requirements in this section of the code are for "Habitable Rooms" and it calls for Heating and Natural Ventilation only. AC is not a requirement.

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.