Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7951

Date November 24, 2026

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Section 403.5.1

Question:

An R-2 high-rise building of 11 stories is designed with 4 dwelling units per story.
Each story is divided into two non-communicating halves by a continuous wall.
Two exit stairways serve each pair of units in each half of the building.
The two exit stairway enclosures on each side of the building have less than 30 feet between them but comply with other sections of the code.
Both stairs on the right side of the building are more than 30 feet from both stairs on the left side of the building.

Do the occupants in each half of the building require access to two exit stairway enclosures separated by 30 feet?

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.