



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7967**



Date September 05, 2017

Edition 2014

Section 705.8.5

Question:

Is it the intent of 705.8.5 that, when altering an existing building, a combination of horizontal and vertical distance be permitted to achieve the required 36 inches of separation between openings?

Answer

As per table 705.8 this is not permitted without a minimum of 36 inch vertical separation. That means the glass door must be set back over 36 inches from the edge of the balcony without exception. The addition of a rated fire door still would not relieve the requirement.

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.