



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 8111**



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Section 517.2

Question:

Is it the intent of 2014 NEC 517.2 Definition of Health Care facility to include a Holistic Medical Reiki practice that has patient exam rooms?

Answer

Probably not. Please see the attached commentary.

Commentary:

According to one source Reiki is defined as "Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. It is administered by "laying on hands" and is based on the idea that an unseen "life force energy" flows through us and is what causes us to be alive. If one's "life force energy" is low, then we are more likely to get sick or feel stress, and if it is high, we are more capable of being happy and healthy." As such, if no use of equipment, invasive procedures or other medical techniques or used, this area may not qualify as requiring the redundant grounding that is typically a part of the NEC Article 517 requirements. Much like many Chiropractic practices, no invasive procedures are used and virtually no equipment, other than the practitioners hands are a part of the treatment. While the final decision rests with the Building Official, all factors need to be taken into account and a discussion with the applicant may be appropriate.

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.