



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 9151**



Date October 03, 2025

Edition 2023

Section 903.2.1.2

Question:

For the purposes of FBC 903.2.1.2 Exception, does a bar and lounge where patrons are seated at tables and counters for on-premises consumption of food and drinks qualify as a “restaurant, cafeteria, or similar dining facility,” such that sprinklers would only be required if the occupant load is 200 patrons or more?

Additionally, is the presence of a commercial kitchen with a grill and/or hood a determining factor in whether an establishment qualifies as a “restaurant, cafeteria, or similar dining facility” under this exception?

Answer

As described, this does not meet the exception. A sprinkler system is required.

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.