



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 9471**



Date December 17, 2025

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Section 1503.7

Question:

Section 1503.7 requires roof downspouts to terminate at least 12" away from the structure. Does this section apply secondary roof drains as well?

Answer

All down spouts are required to terminate a minimum of twelve inches from side walls to keep water away from the foundation. If the secondary drain includes a down spout it needs to terminate twelve inches from the side wall of the structure or use one of the other options such as underground piping , tail extensions, or splash blocks

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.