



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 9478**



Date January 16, 2026

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Section 420.5

Question:

If more stringent local amendments do not exist in a particular jurisdiction, are fire sprinklers required in R-3 occupancies in Florida?

Answer

Under Section 903 in the FBC-Building all Group R, including R-3, required fire sprinkler protection.

Note: If the one- or two- family dwelling is constructed to the FBC-Residential, it is not an R-3 occupancy and Section 903 of the FBC-Building would not apply. The key here if the building is being constructed to the FBC-Building or the FBC-Residential. Once the correct occupancy classification is determined, then the correct code application can be applied.

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.