



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Public Safety Services



H. BUTCH BROWNING
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

INTERPRETIVE MEMORANDUM 2012 - 01

To: LA Licensed Architects
LA Licensed Engineers
Local Building Officials
Chief Dan Wallis, Deputy Asst Fire Marshal Enforcement/Emergency Services
Felicia Cooper, Deputy Asst Secretary/Plan Review
Stephen Gogreve, Manager
Plan Review Staff

From: Don Zeringue, Chief Architect/Plan Review

Approved by: Chief Butch Browning, State Fire Marshal

Date: July 1, 2012

RE: BUILDING APPURTENANCES & CONNECTORS -(vs)- CONSTRUCTION TYPE

This office considers all structural elements attached to, or within ten (10') feet of enclosed building areas, as a contiguous and integral part of the predominant building. This memorandum is intended to clarify the application of state adopted fire and building code requirements for the addition of awnings, canopies and building connectors, such as pedestrian walkways and tunnels, as it pertains to the classification of overall building construction type.

NFPA 101 Life Safety Code:

Minimum building construction type is prescribed for each specific occupancy classification. NFPA 220 is used to determine the requirements for the construction classification prescribed. The construction requirements prescribed by NFPA 101 are primarily intended to apply to enclosed areas of a building and to other building features that could affect safety to life from fire, and does not specifically address appurtenances, building connectors, walkways, etc. NFPA 101 specifically identifies "Areas Not Addressed" as follows:

- (1) General fire prevention or building construction features that are normally a function of fire prevention codes and building codes
- (2) Prevention of injury incurred by an individual due to that individual's failure to use reasonable care
- (3) Preservation of property from loss by fire

IBC – International Building Code:

The International Building Code (IBC) contains specific provisions, currently found in Sections 3104 and 3105 of the 2009 edition, regarding the fire rated separation and the materials to be used for constructing awnings, canopies, pedestrian walkways and tunnels. EXCEPTIONS are also permitted, where specified conditions of the IBC are applicable and are satisfied.

DETERMINATION:

This office takes guidance from IBC provisions and accepts compliance with the aforementioned provisions of IBC for satisfying life safety code requirements, without affecting the building's construction type classification and without appeal for equivalency.

NOTE:

THIS DETERMINATION IS NOT INTENDED TO ADDRESS ANYTHING OTHER THAN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TYPE.

DZ/FLF

Is Yours Working"??
Smoke Detectors Save Lives!!
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