



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Public Safety Services



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GOVERNOR

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Memo

FORMAL INTERPRETATION

99-4

To: Plan Review, Inspection, Architects and Engineers
From: Jerry W. Jones Deputy Assistant Secretary/Chief Architect
Date: 5/24/99
Subject: Elevator Lobby separations in high rise buildings

The Standard Building Code requires elevator lobbies in high rise buildings to be separated from the remainder of the facility by construction having a one-hour fire resistance rating with openings protected by self closing 20 minute fire rated door assemblies similar to the separation requirements pertaining to corridors.

Based on the fact the Life Safety Code offers an exception to the requirement for corridor separations in facilities protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system, it has been determined that this office will allow elevator lobbies in high rise buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system to be separated by construction complying with the smoke barrier requirements of the Life Safety Code. Construction must be smoke resistant, with door openings protected by smoke resistant, self closing positive latching door assemblies. Any duct penetrations of the smoke barrier walls shall be protected with smoke dampers.