



FLORIDA BUILDING CODE BINDING INTERPRETATION



Date: March 14, 2008

Report # 35

Petitioner: Richard Moore

Year: 2004

Code: Building

Section: Chapter 20

Question: 1. Does the absence of provisions addressing a material or method of construction in the High Velocity Hurricane Zone (HVHZ) sections of the Florida Building Code mean that those materials or methods of construction not referenced in the HVHZ cannot be used or built in the HVHZ? Specifically, does the code as written prevent the use of vinyl and acrylic windows, as recognized by Section 2002.3.3 within the HVHZ?

2. May non-HVHZ provisions addressing materials or methods of construction not specifically addressed by the HVHZ provisions of the code be used in the HVHZ, when approved by the building official?

Answer: 1. Yes, unless acceptable documentation is provided to and approved by the Building Official in accordance with Section 104.11 (in Miami-Dade County) and section 104.23 (in Broward County) of the Florida Building Code – Building.

2. Yes.

Commentary: It is the responsibility of the Building Official to ensure safety and compliance with the requirements of the governing regulations. The Building Official must be provided sufficient and conclusive information to utilize the alternate methods and materials section indicating the methods and/or materials which meet the requirements of the applicable sections of the Code.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Community Affairs, industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Codes in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is formal and binding statewide.