

Florida Building Commission
 C/o Paula Ford, Agency Clerk
 Florida Dept. of Community Affairs
 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

DCA07-DFEC-105

**Petition for Declaratory Statement
 From the Florida Building Commission**

RE: Section 13-415.1.ABC.1.2
 Florida Building Code

Palm Beach County Building Department
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FILING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
 FILED, on this date, with the designated
 Agency Clerk, receipt of which is hereby
 acknowledged


 Miriam Snipes
 Deputy Agency Clerk

6/5/07
 Date

An interpretation is requested for the following Section 13-415.1.ABC.1.2 of the Florida Building Code because of a difference of opinion on how interpret this section as required by FBC.

The building in question is an existing 5 story county office building with approximately 11,000 square feet per floor. The interior of the building has been removed to the bare walls except for the bathrooms, elevator equipment rooms, and electrical equipment rooms.

Section 13-415.1.ABC.1.2 states as follows:
13-415.1.ABC.1.2 Space control.

Each space enclosed by ceiling-height partitions shall have at least one control device to independently control the general lighting within the space. Each manual device shall be readily accessible and located so the occupants can see the controlled lighting.

- a. A control device shall be installed that automatically turns lighting off within 30 minutes of all occupants leaving a space, except spaces with multiscene control, in the following:
 1. Classrooms (not including shop classrooms, laboratory classrooms, and preschool through 12th grade classrooms).
 2. Conference/meeting rooms.
 3. Employee lunch and break rooms.

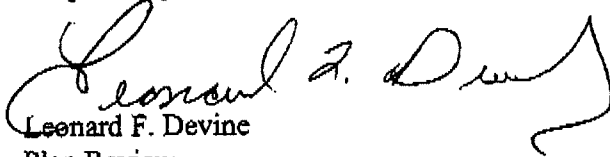
These spaces are not required to be connected to other automatic lighting shutoff controls.

- b. For all other spaces, each control device shall be activated either manually by an occupant or automatically by sensing an occupant. Each control device shall control a maximum of 2,500 square feet (232m²) area for a space 10,000 square feet (929m²) or less; and a maximum of 10,000 square feet (929m²) area for a space greater than 10,000 square feet (929m²); and be capable of overriding any time-of-day scheduled shut-off control for no more than 4 hours.

Answers to the following questions would be appreciated:

- A. Would an office that is enclosed by ceiling – height partitions be considered a space per the FBC?
- B. Is it the intent of this code section to require some form of control to either manually or automatically control lighting within this building with an individual override for each space, (i.e. each room within the building, including mechanical, electrical, individual offices, conference rooms, training rooms, storage rooms with lighting, and open office spaces)?
- C. In the case of this building, would it be permissible to use just two overrides per floor in lieu of installing at least one override control in each space.

Respectfully,



Leonard F. Devine
Plan Review,
Palm Beach County, Florida