

Florida Building Commission
Elevator Emergency Access Ad Hoc Committee Report

November 5, 2001
Rosen Plaza Hotel
9700 International Drive
Orlando, Florida

Attendees

John Calpini, Chair
Sam Walthour

Committee Objectives

- **To Review and Discuss Outstanding Issues**
- **To Consider Draft Recommendations to the Legislature**
- **To Review Assignments and Issues for Next Meeting**

Overview

John Calpini declared the meeting open at 8:20 a.m. Mr. Calpini reviewed the meeting objectives and agenda. The agenda was unanimously approved. Buster Case reviewed past committee actions. Jim Richmond discussed the process of legislation regarding elevator emergency access and raised the issue of privacy to private residences. Mr. Richmond also raised the issue of the number of floors in buildings to be included. The committee discussed these issues in detail. Mr Case discussed several different emergency elevator access products, specifications and the range of costs. During the meeting the Committee also discussed appropriate statute locations to address enforcement.

Committee Actions

Issues Discussed

Number of floors
Privacy to private residences
Lock box specifications
Applicable statutes

- **Motion:** Move to reconsider the issue of the number of floors.
Vote: Unanimous in favor. Motion passes.

There was a discussion of tactical approaches for fighting fires in high rise buildings. Firefighters would not directly access a private residence from an elevator. An EMS response would be the exception.

Disabled accessibility was discussed with regard to requirements in F.S.'s 399 and 553.

There was a discussion about the distinction between a private residence and a business. After

discussions, the Fire Marshal's office agreed that exclusion of private residences should no longer be an issue for the committee's consideration.

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- **Motion:** Move that language regarding number of floors should be changed to read, "...above three floors or twenty five feet in travel distance." Language should be consistent with ANSI standards and accessible using a lock box.
Vote: Unanimous in favor. Motion passes.

Buster Case discussed several different lock box products, costs and specifications. It was recommended by the Bureau of Elevators that the mounting specification be changed to read, "...in the proximity of the fireman's phase one recall switch." and should reference all applicable UL approvals and listings.

There was discussion regarding the appropriate statutes that would deal with the enforcement of emergency elevator access.

- **Motion:** Move that Chapters 633 and 553 should both reference enforcement of elevator emergency access. Statutory language should be worked out between staff and legal from DCA and the State Fire Marshall's office.
Vote: Unanimous in favor. Motion passes.

Conclusion

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.