

Petition # 269 by Thomas Chalifoux

Petitioner:

There are two buildings, both buildings are same layout and are single story buildings. Each building is fire sprinkled and has emergency and exit lights per plans.

The approved plans were approved by the city. Upon final inspection the inspector stated we need emergency exterior lights above each exit door.

We feel after reading the Florida Building Code does not required exterior emergency lights over each exit. The city of Kissimmee states we need exterior lights above each doors that are on 90 minute emergency battery power.

Our occupancy is B, and the occupant loads are under 30 for each unit per table 1006.2.1. Therefore, are only required to have one means of egress. We happened to provide two for each unit. One for Office and one for warehouse.

We would also point out that there are no stairways on this project and the occupant loads are under 50 regarding, 1008.3.2 #5 reference to 1010.1.6)

We request clarification on providing exterior emergency lights.

We do not believe that the building code requires us to provide exterior emergency lights. Above each exit is an lighted exit sign and emergency battery backup light.

Each unit is only required to have one means of egress and therefore would not need an emergency electrical system on the exterior of the exit.

Building Official –

7th Edition FBC section 1008.3.2 Buildings: states - In the event of power supply failure in buildings that require two or more means of egress, an emergency electrical system shall automatically illuminate all of the following area.

(5) exterior landings as required by section 1010.1.6 for all exit doorways that lead directly to the exit discharge.

7th edition FBC section 1008.3.4 Duration: The emergency power system shall provide for a duration of not less than 90 minutes and shall consists of storage batteries, unit equipment or an on- site generator.

Note: The warehouse building, currently consists of 8 warehouse suites and provides a total of 16 exits in this structure.

6th Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Building

1008.3.2 Buildings. In the event of power supply failure in **buildings that require two or more means of egress**, an emergency electrical system shall automatically illuminate all of the following areas:

1. *Interior exit access stairways and ramps.*
2. *Interior and exterior exit stairways and ramps.*
3. *Exit passageways.*
4. Vestibules and areas on the level of discharge used for *exit discharge* in accordance with Section 1028.1.
5. Exterior landings as required by Section 1010.1.6 for *exit doorways* that lead directly to the *exit discharge*.

Staff Analysis

Question:

Does the project in question need to comply with the emergency illumination requirements of Section 1008.3.2 Buildings of the 6th Edition (2017) Florida Building Code, Building?

Answer:

The answer to the Petitioner's question is yes. As per Section 1008.3.2 Buildings and since the warehouse buildings in question provide for two or more mean of egress, exterior emergency lights are required to be provided over each exist doorway.