



# Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

The Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association,  
"Organization" (§633.026)

## **Informal Interpretation**

**Date:** April 29, 2015

**NFPA Document Number:** 101

**Edition:** 5<sup>th</sup> Edition FFPC

**Paragraph Reference:** 7.2.2.6.3

**For purpose of this petition, pertinent factors do not include the name of the governmental agency or persons representing that agency. Petitioners are discouraged from making any personal assertions about an agency or agency official. If this involves an actual situation, briefly explain all of the pertinent factors.**

Actual Situation Explanation:

Question applies to the the design of a new, two story elementary school building in Sarasota County, Florida. Construction type is II(000) (FBC type IIB). Building is fully sprinklered per NFPA 13 and FBC 903.3. First floor building area is 13,192sf, second floor building area is 15,286sf, for a total building area of 29,018sf.

Plan layout on each floor consists of a single, continuous smoke partition corridor with classrooms on each side of the corridor (double loaded), and exits at opposite ends of the corridor. Corridor length is 162'. First floor exits to grade at each end of corridor, and second floor exits to exterior egress stair at each end of corridor, which exits to grade. Exits from each floor are remotely located.

FFPC Section 7.2.2.6.3.1, Exc. 2, states that "Outside stairs serving two or fewer adjacent stories, including the story where the exit discharges, shall be permitted to be unprotected where there is a remotely located second exit." Additionally, FBC Section 1026.6, Exc, 1, states "Separation from the interior of the building is not required for occupancies, other than those in Group R-1 or R-2, in buildings that are no more than two stories above grade plane where a level of exit discharge serving such occupancies is the first story above grade plane."

Rulings herein expressed are not the formal position of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office

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**Question** *(should be worded so that it can be answered with either "Yes" or "No"):*

Can both exterior exit stairs be unprotected?

**Answer: YES**

Reviewing Members:

Region 1: Bruce Teston

Region 2: John Gatlin

Region 3: James Groff

Region 4: Phil Gugliete

Region 5: Tony Apfelbeck

Region 6: Bob Salvaggio

Region 7: Bryan Parks

Committee Answer Submitted by,  
Bryan Parks, Chairman  
Informal Fire Code Interpretation Committee

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