



Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

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

Informal Interpretation Request

Date: 8/4/22

Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Document No. applied by the LFO:
NFPA 101 Edition of the NFPA Document: 2018 FFPC 7th Edition_
Edition of the NFPA Document: 2018 Edition
*Chapter and Paragraph of the NFPA Document: **101:12.3.5.1 & 101:12.3.5.2***

Explain how the Petitioner's substantial interests are being affected by the LFO's interpretation of the NFPA citation above: **As the local Fire official, it is my duty to make decisions in the best interest of public safety. I am seeking clarification of the Life Safety Code sprinkler requirements. The issue in question is a building which is proposed to contain multiple assembly occupancies, including a night club, where the aggregate occupant load will exceed 300 people.**

Enter a statement of the LFO's interpretation of the NFPA citation above and identify the manner in which the statement was rendered:

It is my understanding based on interpretation of the language in 101:12.3.5.1 & 101:12.3.5.2, that the nightclub, which is anticipating occupancy loads greater than 150, must be sprinkler protected. Along with the nightclub, a sports bar with a projected occupant load of greater than 150 is also proposed to occupy another portion of the building. There are 2 additional tenants/suites that have unspecified use and are available to lease. Based on the sports bar and nightclub alone, their aggregate occupant load total will exceed 300.

Enter a statement of the interpretation that the Petitioner contends should be given to the NFPA citation above and a statement supporting the Petitioner's interpretation:

As the LFO for the City of Clearwater, my interpretation of the referenced code above states that not only shall the nightclub have sprinkler coverage, but the entire building shall be required as well - Due to the increased life safety risks of the proposed occupancy types, aggregate occupancy loads in excess of 300 from multiple assembly occupants, limited fire department access due to non-vehicle/pedestrian greenspace on the front of the building, presence of mezzanines, and the lack of protection systems in the current building shell.

Explain how the Petitioner's substantial interests are being affected by the question below: **We are trying to fairly apply the code to this building housing multiple occupancies in our downtown development district but will face push back on the sprinkler requirements due to cost to the building owner.**

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

Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association | P. O. Box 325 Hobe Sound, FL 33475 | Tel 772-349-1507 | Fax 772-546-6675

Website: www.FFMIA.org | Email: info@ffmia.org | http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/bfpr/bfpr_index.htm



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Enter the Petitioner's question concerning an interpretation of the FFPC: **In the situation described, is the building required to be fully fire sprinkler protected, if the aggregate occupant load of assembly occupancies within 3 of the 5 tenant spaces in the building is over 300?**

Committee's majority answer: Yes

The building shall have sprinkler protection based on the occupant load of the two assembly spaces.

Region 1 - Delegate: **Byron Bennett**, Fire Chief North Bay Fire Control District
Alternate: **William (Michael) Hall**, Fire Chief, Marianna Fire Rescue

Region 2 - Delegate: **Jason R. Greisl** Division Chief of Fire Prevention/Fire Marshal Tallahassee Fire
Alternate: N/A*

Region 3 - Delegate: **James Groff**, Jacksonville Fire Rescue.
Alternate: **Robert Growick** Division Chief /Fire Marshall City of St. Augustine

Region 4 - Delegate: **Cheryl Edwards**, Lakeland Fire Rescue
Alternate: **Karl Thompson**

Region 5 - Delegate: **Anthony Apfelbeck**, Altamonte Springs Building and Fire Safety Department
Alternate: **Christina Diaz**, Seminole County Fl.

Region 6 - Delegate: **Robert Salvaggio**, Cape Corral Fire Rescue
Alternate: **Janet Washburn**, Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

Region 7 - Delegate: **Matthew E. Welhaf**, Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Department
Alternate: **(Kenneth) Sean Brown**, Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue & Emergency Services Department.

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Committee Region Map



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