

FILE NO. 2-308.1

DATE: February 2, 2001

CODE APPLICATION NOTICE

CODE SECTION: CBC 308.1 – Group I Occupancies Defined and Fire and Life Safety Requirements related to Group I, Division 1.1 and Group I, Division 3 Occupancies

308.1 Group I Occupancies Defined. Group I Occupancies shall be:

Division 1.1. Nurseries for the full-time care of children under the age of six (each accommodating more than five children), *[for SFM] six children*).

Hospitals, sanitariums, nursing homes with nonambulatory patients *[for SFM] where medical care is provided, or homes with nonambulatory guests where medical care is provided*, and similar buildings (each accommodating more than five patients *[for SFM] six patients*).

...

...

Division 3. Mental hospitals, mental sanitariums, jails, prisons, reformatories and buildings where personal liberties of inmates are similarly restrained. *[For SFM] Restraint shall not be permitted in any building except in Group I, Division 3 Occupancies constructed for such use in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.*

...

INTERPRETATION:

The following provisions shall apply to Occupancies housing nonambulatory patients under a condition of restraint when located in portions or areas of acute care hospitals or skilled nursing facilities classified as Group I, Division 1.1 Occupancies.

1. General

- a. The determination whether patients are ambulatory or nonambulatory, including those housed under a condition of restraint, shall be made by Licensing and Certification.
- b. These provisions shall not apply to local detention facilities, jail wards, correctional treatment centers (CTC's), juvenile halls, camps, jails and lockups used for the detention of minors, prisons or Group I, Division 3 Occupancies classified as places of detention.
- c. Requirements which are the same for both Group I, Division 1.1 and Group I, Division 3 Occupancies require no clarification.
- d. Unless otherwise noted, sections cited are from the ~~1998~~ 2001 California Building Code.
- e. Facilities or portions of facilities converting from unlocked to locked or from locked to unlocked will be considered a change of occupancy or use for the purposes of Section 3405 and CAN 2-34.

2. Construction, height and allowable area shall comply with Sections 308.2.2.2 and the Group I, Division 3 Occupancy provisions of Table 5-B.
3.
 - a. Smoke barriers shall comply with Section 308.2.2.1.
 - b. Openings in smoke barriers shall comply with the Group I, Division 1.1 Occupancy provisions of Section 905.2.4.
4. Special hazard provisions, including those regulating specific use areas shall comply with Group I, Division 1.1 provisions of Section 308.8 and Table 3-C.
5. Fire alarms shall comply with Group I, Division 1.1 provisions of Sections 308.9 and ~~308.10a~~ 308.10.1 and California Fire Code Section ~~4007.2.7.1~~ 1006.2.7.1, and with the provisions of California Fire Code Section ~~4007.2.7.2~~ 1006.2.7.2.
6. Fire sprinklers shall comply with Group I, Division 1.1 provisions of Sections 904.2.7 and 904.3.1 Item #1.
7. Interior finish ratings shall comply with the provisions of Table 8-B as follows:
 - a. Group I, Division 1.1 for “enclosed vertical exitways” and “other exitways.”
 - b. Group I, Division 3 for “rooms or areas.”
8. Means of egress illumination shall comply with Group I, Division 1.1 provisions of Section 1003.2.9.
9. Means of egress shall comply with Group I, Division 1.1 provisions of Section 1007.5.
10. When lobby means of egress doors are locked, Exception 2 of Section 1005.3.3.3 shall not apply.
11. Means of egress shall not be secured without effective provisions being made to remove occupants in case of fire or other emergency. Sections 1003.3.1.8 and 1007.5.12
12. Roof covering shall comply with the Group I, Division 1.1 Occupancy provisions of Table 15-A.

REASON:

Requirements pertaining to Group I, Division 1.1 Occupancies regulate hospitals and nursing homes. Requirements pertaining to Group I, Division 3 Occupancies regulate mental hospitals and other buildings where personal liberties of patients are restrained. Because the requirements contained in the building and Fire Codes do not address portions or areas of Group I Occupancies where both nonambulatory and restrained patients are housed, it is unclear whether the requirements for Group I, Division 1.1 or Group I, Division 3 occupancies apply to buildings or areas housing

both nonambulatory and restrained patients. This has resulted in the inconsistent application of Building and Fire Code requirements in these types of facilities.

This Code Application Notice serves to clarify the application of requirements when these conditions exist.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

8/25/04

Kurt A. Schaefer

Date