



# Florida Fire Marshals And Inspectors Association

## Informal Interpretation

**Date:** September 14, 2010

**NFPA Document Number:** NFPA 101

**Edition:** 2007

**Paragraph Reference:** 31.2.2.2.2.1 & 7.2.1.6.1

**If this involves an actual situation, explain briefly:**

Property location: 5400 Ocean Blvd, Sarasota, Florida

I notified [late 2008] the Fire Marshal [Jane E. Ross] that the two (2) exit doors, located at the exit route though the "pool area" were locked at the building managers directions. The only way to exit was to have a security key. she investiaged this and the locks were removed.

A few months later the locks were again placed on the doors and on 5/19/09, the Fire Marshal Ross and Fire Inspector Qualey visited the site and issued a notice to comply.

Eventually, one of the two doors had a mechanical release installed to allow egress, but the other door remains locked. I had informed the Fire Marshal who stated the doors now meet code. I ask for the authorization to allow this in violation to the above cited codes and was meet with deaf ears.

If I am wrong, all I ask is to show me the regulations that allow ingree and egress doors to remain locked..

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

Should the ingree/egress doors be allowed to remain locked in violation to NFPA (2007), chapter 31.2.2.2.1 and 7.2.1.6.1?

**Answer:**

Denied; too vague and calls for ruling not consistent with committee's charge.

Committee Answer Submitted by,

Bart Wright, Chair  
Informal Fire Code Interpretation Committee