STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-15-09

June 19, 2009

The following is offered in response to your email dated April 28, 2009 in which you seek a formal interpretation. The question would apply to Section 105.1, of the 2003 International Building Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question 1:

Is a building permit necessary when changing existing windows with replacement windows in an apartment building with four units or less? The structure is not being changed, old windows are removed and new ones inserted.

Answer 1:

An apartment building is an R-2 residential occupancy containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature. A building permit is required when windows are being removed and replaced. The purpose of obtaining the building permit is to cause the work being done to be reviewed and inspected to determine compliance with applicable code requirements.