STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-59-00

September 8, 2000

The following is offered in response to your letter in which you request a formal interpretation of Section 308.4, Item #5, of the 1995 CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code.

Question: When a hot tub with an approved safety cover is located inside a sunroom, must all of the glazing within the room that is less than 60 inches above the drain inlet be safety glazed or are just the walls adjacent to the hot tub regulated by this section?

Answer: The code, for this requirement, treats hot tubs similarly to bathtubs. The enclosure for a bathtub has been determined to include those walls adjacent to the tub and its accompanying platform, if any. The enclosure for the hot tub would therefore also be only those walls that were adjacent to the length and width of the hot tub itself. Additional glazing, not adjacent to the hot tub, would not be required by this section to be safety glazed. All glass, however, must be evaluated for other provisions in the code that may cause it to be required to be safety glazed.

In view of the fact that the BOCA National Building Code/1996 portion of the 1999 State Building Code contains similar language to the 1995 CABO Code on this subject, this interpretation is valid for the BOCA Code also, keeping in mind that the BOCA Code uses any standing surface as the point from which the 60 inch measurement is made.