

ICC Code Technology Committee

Care Facilities Study Group

Staff Teleconference Notes

April 23, 2007

Chair Jones initiated the teleconference at approximately 9:00 am Central on April 23, 2007.

Members present: Amiri (Arlington, VA), Jones (Borough of Millburn NJ, CTC), Mazz (US Access Board)

Interested parties present: Bonn (Utah Dept of Health), Heilstedt (CTC), Jewell (Southfield, MI), Poke (State of Michigan), Soens (Wisc. Dept of Health), Uhaze (NJ DCA), Warren (NC Div. of Facility Services), Williams (WA state Dept of Health)

Staff present: Pfeiffer, Paarlberg

The group reviewed the staff notes from the March 16th call, noting that the facility size of 10,000 sq. ft. is not the threshold in the Life Safety Code for sprinklers. Specifically:

- Sect 20.1.6.5: Sprinklers req'd based on certain types of construction
- Sect 20.3.7.2: Sprinklers req'd based on smoke compartment configurations

Staff cited the history of the threshold of 5 in the IBC and at least one of the legacy codes, as follows:

- 1950 BOCA Code: L-3 structures were one and two family dwellings including not more than 5 lodgers or boarders
- All 3 legacy codes used the threshold of more than 5 for certain institutional occupancies
- IBC drafting and subsequently the IBC used the threshold of more than 5

The group discussed the thresholds of 3 and 4, noting the key was the whether or not the occupants were capable of self preservation. They also discussed size thresholds. They concluded:

Occupant threshold:

- Up to 4 located at level of exit discharge (LOED) did not trigger sprinklers
- One or more not at the LOED triggered sprinklers

Size threshold:

- 0 – 5,000 sq. ft.: No alarms; no sprinklers
- 5,000 – 10,000 sq. ft.: Smoke alarms required
- Greater than 10,000 sq. ft.: Need space divided by smoke barriers

The group then discussed the hours of operation noting that the only stipulation should be one of where the occupants receiving care are on site for less than 24 hours.

Next telecom: June 1st @ 9:00 am Central

Action items/next meeting:

- Develop and discuss Working Draft #5

Teleconference adjourned at 10:035 am.