PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE STATION NO. 32

Issue: Vertical accessibility to the second floor of a fire station.

Analysis: The applicant is requesting a waiver from providing vertical accessibility to the second floor of a new \$2,500,000 fire station. The second floor will b occupied only by firefighters who must demonstrate a high level of physical strength and agility, required by both state and federal regulations. The firefighters area will providing quarters for six occupants. According to the applicant, the owner has chosen to design and build the facility in accordance with the Uniform Federal Accessibility Requirements which permit areas not open to the public and in which persons with physical disabilities cannot perform the physical duties required to be constructed without vertical access.

Project Progress:

The project is under design.

Items to be Waived:

Vertical accessibility to the second floor, as required by Section 553.509, Florida Statutes.

- 553.509 Vertical a ccessibility. Nothing in Sections 553.501-553.513 or the guidelines shall be construed to relieve the owner of any building, structure or facility governed by those sections from the duty to provide vertical accessibility to all levels above and below the occupiable grade level regardless of whether the guidelines require an elevator to be installed in such building, structure or facility, except for:
 - (1) Elevator pits, elevator penthouses, mechanical rooms, piping or equipment catwalks and automobile lubrication and maintenance pits and platforms;
 - (2) Unoccupiable spaces, such as rooms, enclosed spaces and storage spaces that are not designed for human occupancy, for public accommodations or for work areas; and
 - (3) Occupiable spaces and rooms that are not open to the public and that house no more than five persons, including, but not limited to equipment control rooms and projection booths.

Waiver Criteria: There is no specific guidance for a waiver of this requirement in the code. The Commission's current rule, authorized in Section 553.512, Florida Statutes, provides criteria for granting waivers and allows consideration of unnecessary or extreme hardship to the applicant if the specific requirements were imposed.

This application is available in alternate formats upon request.

REQUEST FOR WAIVER FROM ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 553, PART V, FLORIDA STATUTES

Your application will be reviewed by the Accessibility Advisory Council and its recommendations will be presented to the Florida Building Commission. You will have the opportunity to answer questions and/or make a short presentation, not to exceed 15 minutes, at each meeting. The Commission will consider all information presented and the Council's recommendation before voting on the waiver request.

1. Name and address of project for which the waiver is requested.
Name: Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Station No. 32
Address: 4022 Charleston Street
Lake Worth, Florida 33467
2. Name of Applicant. If other than the owner, please indicate relationship of applicant to owner and written authorization by owner in space provided:
Applicant's Name: Chief Herman W. Brice
Applicant's Address: 50 South Military Trail, Suite 101, West Palm Beach, FL 33415
Applicant's Telephone : <u>561-616-7000</u> FAX : <u>561-616-7080</u>
Applicant's E-mail Address: See Contact Person Below
Relationship to Owner: Fire Rescue Administrator
Owner's Name: Palm Beach County
Owner's Address: 50 South Military Trail, Suite 101, West Palm Beach, FL 33415
Owner's Telephone: 561-616-7000 FAX: 561-616-7080
Owner's E-mail Address: See contact Person Below
Signature of Owner:
Contact Person: Randy Sheppard, Deputy Chief
Contact Person's Telephone: 561-616-7003 E-mail Address: rsheppard@co.palm-beach.fl.us

This application is available in alternate formats upon request. Form No. 2001-01
3. Please check one of the following:
$[\sqrt{\ }]$ New construction.
[] Addition to a building or facility.
[] Alteration to an existing building or facility.
[] Historical preservation (addition).
[] Historical preservation (alteration).
4. Type of facility. Please describe the building (square footage, number of floors). Define the use of the building (i.e., restaurant, office, retail, recreation, hotel/motel, etc.) The building will be a two-story, 8,739 sq. ft. fire station. The fire station is operational 24 hours a day
and its occupants are firefighters as defined by meeting the requirements of Florida Statutes
633.30-633.35. This facility will serve the community with a full array of emergency response services.
The station will replace an existing station on the same site that has reached the end of its utility.
5. Project Construction Cost (Provide cost for new construction, the addition or the alteration):\$ 2,500,000.00
6. Project Status: Please check the phase of construction that best describes your project at the time of this application. Describe status.
[√] Under Design [] Under Construction*
[] In Plan Review [] Completed*
* Briefly explain why the request has now been referred to the Commission.
The project is in plan review and is awaiting the outcome of this application in order to move
forward.

7. Requirements requested to be waived. Please reference the applicable section of Florida law. Only Florida-specific accessibility requirements may be waived.
Issue
1: This code shall apply to state and local government facilities, pursuant to Section 553.503,
Florida Statutes.
Issue
2: Florida Statutes Title XXXIIII Regulation of Trade, Commerce, Investments and Solicitations
Chapter 553, Part II, Accessibility by Handicapped Persons 553.509 Vertical Accessibility.
Issue
3: Chapter 11, Florida Accessibility Code or Building Construction, Part A, (1-4 Accessible
Elements and Spaces: Scope and Technical Requirements, 11-4.1.3 (1) & 11-4.1.3 (5).
8. Reason(s) for Waiver Request: The Florida Building Commission may grant waivers of Florida-specific accessibility requirements upon a determination of unnecessary, unreasonable or extreme hardship. Please describe how this project meets the following hardship criteria. Explain all that would apply for consideration of granting the waiver.
[$\sqrt{\ }$] The hardship is caused by a condition or set of conditions affecting the owner which does not affect owners in general.
A fire station facility is used mainly to house firefighting equipment and fire firefighters. The minimum requirements to qualify are outlined in Florida Statutes 633.30-633.35. These statutes govern all firefighters. These statutes dictate that a firefighter be in good physical condition as outlined by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1582. Under no circumstance would an individual with a disability be qualified to be a firefighter. Therefore, making this requirement for an elevator, to be installed, along with any other type of vertical accessibility, to the non-public areas of the fire station as the accessibility code does, is impractical. [] Substantial financial costs will be incurred by the owner if the waiver is denied.
[] The owner has made a diligent investigation into the costs of compliance with the code, but cannot find an efficient mode of compliance. Provide detailed cost estimates and, where appropriate, photographs. Cost estimates must include bids and quotes.

- 9. Provide documented cost estimates for each portion of the waiver request and identify any additional supporting data which may affect the cost estimates. For example, for vertical accessibility, the lowest documented cost of an elevator, ramp, lift or other method of providing vertical accessibility should be provided, documented by quotations or bids from at least two vendors or contractors.

10. **Licensed Design Professional**: Where a licensed design professional has designed the project, his or her comments **MUST** be included and certified by signature and affixing of his or her professional seal. The comments must include the reason(s) why the waiver is necessary.

The following comments pertain to the new Fire Station #32, 4022 Charleston Street, Lake Worth, Florida 33467. In accordance with the Florida Building Code, Accessible buildings, Section 11.4.1.3(5) 3 "occupiable spaces and rooms that are not open to the public and that house no more than five persons including, but not limited to, equipment control rooms and projection booths" and Section 11.4.1.3(5), Exception 1, "Elevators are not required in facilities that are less then three stories or that have less than 3,000 square feet per story unless the building is a shopping center, a shopping mall, or the professional office of a health care provider, or another type of facility as determined by the Attorney General" we are requesting a waiver. Based on this code section and the requirement that under Florida Statues 633.30-633.35, specifically F.S. 633.34 (5) these facilities shall not have any firefighter that is either temporarily or permanently disabled, we contend that building does not need to comply with the accessibility code requirement of an elevator or any other means of vertical accessibility to the second floor.

As per the Federal Registrar 28 CFR Part 35 Section 35.151 and 36 CFR Par 1191, the Department of Justice's Title II Regulation give state and local governments the option of choosing between designing, constructing or altering their facilities in conformance with UFAS or with ADAAG. We choose to use UFAS which includes an Occupancy Classification Section that is not included in the ADA. This Section 4.1.4(5) deals with fire stations and states that the application of the code should apply to: "All areas for which the intended use will require public access or which may result in employment of physically hand appead person". Based on this code we again contend that an elevator or any appeal of the results of the results of the second floor, for the firefighters, does not need to comply with the

<u>Stephen L. Boruf</u>

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Phone number 10.41.8900

(SEAL)

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANT:

I hereby swear or affirm that the applicable documents in support of this Request for Waiver are attached for review by the Florida Building Commission and that all statements made in this application are to the best of my knowledge true and correct.

Dated this	6day.gf	Sept.	, 20 0 7	
V/2172	san Dre			
Signature				
Chief He	erman W. Brice			
Printed Name				

By signing this application, the applicant represents that the information in it is true, accurate and complete. If the applicant misrepresents or omits any material information, the Commission may revoke any order and will notify the building official of the permitting jurisdiction. Providing false information to the Commission is punishable as a misdemeanor under Section 775.083, Florida Statutes.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION BY LOCAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

Please state why the issue is being referred to the Florida Building Commission as well as a recommendation for disposition. The building official or his or her designee should review the application and indicate that to the best of his or her knowledge, all information stipulated herein is true and accurate. Further, if this project is complete, explain why it is being referred to the Commission. The building official or his or her designee should sign a copy of the plans accompanying this application as certification that such plans are the same as those submitted for building department review. Please reference the applicable section of the Accessibility Code.

a. 2004 Florida Building Code Section 11-4.1.3 (5)
b. The second floor has six beds which exceeds the limit 5 persons per 11-4.1.3 (5) (3)
С.
Has there been any permitted construction activity on this building during the past three years? If so, what was the cost of construction?
[]Yes [X] No Cost of Construction
Comments/Recommendations I support PBC Fire Rescue's attempt to get the vertical accessibility waived by the Florida Building Commission.
Suilding Official or Designee: Signature Signature
Rebecca Caldwell Printed Name
BU 626 Certification Number
561-233-5100

Telephone/FAX

Address: 2300 N. Jog Road West Palm Beach, Florida 33411-2741

Owner & Builder Consultants, Inc.

5689 Native Dancer Road South Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418-7733

Probable Cost

Date	Estimate #
9/4/2007	70402
Customer	Job.
Stephen L. Boruff	Fire Station #32

Customer Information

Stephen L. Boruff Stephen Boruff Architects, Inc. 901 Northpoint Parkway, Suite 101 West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
OWNER and BUILDER CONSULTANTS, INC.			
Elevators and Lifts, Subcontract Elevators for apartments or commercial buildings, hydraulic vertical cab, meets code requirements for public buildings, 2,500 pound capacity, to 13 passengers. Includes side opening sliding door, illuminated controls, emergency light, alarm, code-approved fire service operation, motor control unit, wiring in hoistway, cab and door design options. Basic, 2 stop elevator. 150 feet per minute			
Subcontract, per LS	1	48,308.83	48,308.83
Add for hall position indicator Subcontract, per Ea	2	423.22	846.44
Add for car position indicator		423.22	040.44
Subcontract, per Ea	2	423,22	846.44
Add for car direction light & tone			
Subcontract, per Ea	2	412.90	825.80
Add for hall lantern with audible tone			
Subcontract, per Ea	2	423.22	846.44
*Project Subtotal			51,673.95
10.00% Overhead	1	5,167.40	5,167.40
10.00% Profit	1	5,684.13	5,684.13
*Markup Charges		·	10,851.53
*Project Total			62,525.48

Total	62,525.48
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North Elevation

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