**Florida Supplement to the 2012 IMC**

**ICC EDIT VERSION**

**Note 1**: Throughout the document, change International Building Code to Florida Building Code, Building; change the ICC Electrical Code to Chapter 27 of the Florida Building Code, Building; change the International Energy Conservation Code tothe Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation; change the International Existing Building Code to Florida Building Code, Existing Building; change the International Fire code to Florida Fire Prevention Code; change International Fuel Gas Code to Florida Building Code, Fuel Gas; change the International Mechanical Code to Florida Building Code, Mechanical; change the International Plumbing Code to Florida Building Code, Plumbing; change the International Residential Code to Florida Building Code, Residential.

**Note 2**: Criteria blocked in yellow indicate Florida specific language from the 2010 FBC.

**PREFACE**

**~~Introduction~~**

**~~Development~~**

**History**

The State of Florida first mandated statewide building codes during the 1970s at the beginning of the modern construction boom. The first law required all municipalities and counties to adopt and enforce one of the four state-recognized model codes known as the “state minimum building codes.” During the early 1990s a series of natural disasters, together with the increasing complexity of building construction regulation in vastly changed markets, led to a comprehensive review of the state building code system. The study revealed that building code adoption and enforcement was inconsistent throughout the state and those local codes thought to be the strongest proved inadequate when tested by major hurricane events. The consequences of the building codes system failure were devastation to lives and economies and a statewide property insurance crisis. The response was a reform of the state building construction regulatory system that placed emphasis on uniformity and accountability.

The 1998 Florida Legislature amended Chapter 553, *Florida Statutes* (FS), Building Construction Standards, to create a single state building code that is enforced by local governments. As of March 1, 2002, the *Florida Building Code*, which is developed and maintained by the Florida Building Commission, supersedes all local building codes. The *Florida Building Code* is updated every three years and may be amended annually to incorporate interpretations and clarifications.

**Scope**

The *Florida Building Code* is based on national model building codes and national consensus standards which are amended where necessary for Florida’s specific needs. However, code requirements that address snow loads and earthquake protection are pervasive; they are left in place but should not be utilized or enforced because Florida has no snow load or earthquake threat. The code incorporates all building construction-related regulations for public and private buildings in the State of Florida other than those specifically exempted by Section 553.73, *Florida Statutes*. It has been harmonized with the *Florida Fire Prevention Code*, which is developed and maintained by the Department of Financial Services, Office of the State Fire Marshal, to establish unified and consistent standards.

The base codes for the Fifth edition (2014) of the *Florida Building Code* include: the International Building Code®, 2012 edition; the International Plumbing Code®, 2012 edition; the International Mechanical Code®, 2012 edition; the International Fuel Gas Code®, 2012 edition; the International Residential Code®, 2012 edition; the International Existing Building Code®, 2012 edition; the International Energy Conservation Code, 2012; the National Electrical Code, 2011 edition; substantive criteria from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers’ (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1-2010. State and local codes adopted and incorporated into the code include the *Florida Building Code, Accessibility,* and special hurricane protection standards for the High-Velocity Hurricane Zone.

The code is composed of nine main volumes: the *Florida Building Code, Building*, which also includes state regulations for licensed facilities; the *Florida Building Code, Plumbing*; the *Florida Building Code, Mechanical;* the *Florida Building Code, Fuel Gas*; the *Florida Building Code, Existing Building*; the *Florida Building Code, Residential;* the *Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation*; the *Florida Building Code, Accessibility* and the *Florida Building Code, Test Protocols for High-Velocity Hurricane Zones*. Chapter 27 of the *Florida Building Code, Building*, adopts the *National Electrical Code*, NFPA 70, by reference.

Under certain strictly defined conditions, local governments may amend requirements to be more stringent than the code. All local amendments to the *Florida Building Code* must be adopted by local ordinance and reported to the Florida Building Commission then posted on [www.floridabuilding.org](http://www.floridabuilding.org) in Legislative format for a month before being enforced. Local amendments to the *Florida Building Code* and the *Florida Fire Prevention Code* may be obtained from the Florida Building Commission web site, or from the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation or the Florida Department of Financial Services, Office of the State Fire Marshal, respectively.

**Adoption and Maintenance**

**[Note to editor: Replace ICC “Adoption” and “Maintenance” with the following text:]**

The *Florida Building Code* is adopted and updated with new editions triennially by the Florida Building Commission. It is amended annually to incorporate interpretations, clarifications and to update standards. Minimum requirements for permitting, plans review and inspections are established by the code, and local jurisdictions may adopt additional administrative requirements that are more stringent. Local technical amendments are subject to strict criteria established by Section 553.73, *F.S.* They are subject to Commission review and adoption into the code or repeal when the code is updated triennially and are subject to appeal to the Commission according to the procedures established by Section 553.73, *F.S*.

Eleven Technical Advisory Committees (TACs), which are constituted consistent with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Guidelines, review proposed code changes and clarifications of the code and make recommendations to the Commission. These TACs whose membership is constituted consistent with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Guidelines include: Accessibility; Joint Building Fire (a joint committee of the Commission and the State Fire Marshal); Building Structural; Code Administration/ Enforcement; Electrical; Energy; Mechanical; Plumbing and Fuel Gas; Roofing; Swimming Pool; and Special Occupancy (state agency construction and facility licensing regulations).

The Commission may only issue official code clarifications using procedures of Chapter 120, *Florida Statutes*. To obtain such a clarification, a request for a Declaratory Statement (DEC) must be made to the Florida Building Commission in a manner that establishes a clear set of facts and circumstances and identifies the section of the code in question. Requests are analyzed by staff, reviewed by the appropriate Technical Advisory Committee, and sent to the Florida Building Commission for action. These interpretations establish precedents for situations having similar facts and circumstances and are typically incorporated into the code in the next code amendment cycle. Non-binding opinions are available from the Building Officials Association of Florida’s web site (www.BOAF.net) and a Binding Opinion process is available online at www.floridabuilding.org.

**Code Development Committee Responsibilities (Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers)**

**[Note to editor: Use paragraphs 1 and 2 specific to this code through the code committee descriptors. Delete the remaining text in this section.]**

**Marginal Markings**

Solid vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a technical change from the requirements of the 2009 edition. Deletion indicators in the form of an arrow (**→**) are provided in the margin where an entire section, paragraph, exception or table has been deleted or an item in a list of items or table has been deleted.

Dotted vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a change from the requirements of the base codes to the *Florida Building Cod, Fifth Edition (2014)* effective ???.

Sections deleted from the base code are designated “Reserved” in order to maintain the structure of the base code.

**Italicized Terms**

**[No change to I Code text.]**

**Acknowledgments**

The *Florida Building Code* is produced through the efforts and contributions of building designers, contractors, product manufacturers, regulators and other interested parties who participate in the Florida Building Commission’s consensus processes, Commission staff and the participants in the national model code development processes.

**[Note to Editor: Delete the following ICC text in its entirety:]**

**~~Effective Use of the …~~**

**~~Legislation~~**

***Chapter 1, Administration***

**Section 101 General**

***101.1 Scope. Change to read as shown.***

**[A] 101.1 ~~Title.~~**~~These regulations shall be known as the~~ *~~Mechanical Code~~* ~~of [NAME OF JURISDICTION], hereinafter referred to as "this code.”~~  **Scope.**The provisions of Chapter 1, *Florida Building Code, Building* shall govern the administration and enforcement of the *Florida Building Code, Mechanical.*

***101.2 Scope. Change to read as shown.***

**101.2 Scope.** Reserved.

***101.3 Intent. Change to read as shown.***

**101.3 Intent**. Reserved.

***101.4    Severability. Change to read as shown.***

**101.4 Severability**. Reserved.

***Section 102 Applicability. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 102 Applicability.** Reserved.

***Section 103, Department of Mechanical Inspection. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 103, Department of Mechanical Inspection.** Reserved.

***Section 104, Duties and Powers of the Code Official. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 104, Duties and Powers of the Code Official.** Reserved.

***Section 105, Approval. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 105, Approval.** Reserved.

***Section 106, Permits. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 106, Permits.** Reserved.

***Section 107, Inspections and Testing. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 107, Inspections and Testing.**  Reserved.

***Section 108, Violations. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 108, Violations**. Reserved.

***Section 109, Means of Appeal. Change to read as shown.***

**Section 109, Means of Appeal**. Reserved.

***Section 110, Temporary Equipment, Systems and Uses. Change to read as shown:***

**Section 110. Temporary Equipment, Systems and Uses**. Reserved.

***Chapter 2, Definitions***

**SECTION 202**

**GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

***Section 202 General definitions. Change definitions specified to read as follows:***

**BOILER, HOT WATER SUPPLY.** Any vessel used for generating hot water to be used external to the vessel, which exceeds any of the following limitations:

1. A heat input capacity of 400,000 Btuh (117.2 kW).

2. A water temperature of 210ºF (99ºC).

3. A nominal water capacity of 120 gal (454 L).

**DESIGN FLOOD ELEVATION.** The elevation of the “design flood,” including wave height, relative to the datum specified on the community’s legally designated flood hazard map. In areas designated as Zone AO, the *design flood elevation* shall be the elevation of the highest existing grade of the *building’s* perimeter plus the depth number (in feet) specified on the flood hazard map. In areas designated as Zone AO where a depth number is not specified on the map, the depth number shall be taken as being equal to 2 feet (610 mm).

***Chapter 3, General Regulations***

**SECTION 301**

**GENERAL**

***Section 301.16.1 High-velocity wave action. Change to read as follows:***

**301.16.1 ~~High-velocity wave action~~ Coastal high hazard areas.** In ~~flood hazard areas subject to high-velocity wave action~~ coastal high hazard areas, mechanical systems and *equipment* shall not be mounted on or penetrate walls intended to break away under flood loads

**SECTION 307**

**CONDENSATE DISPOSAL**

***Section 307.2.5. Add to read as follows:***

**307.2.5 Pipe insulation.**All horizontal primary condensate drains within unconditioned areas shall be insulated to prevent condensation from forming on the exterior of the drain pipe.

***Chapter 5, Exhaust Systems***

Section 505.2, add Exception to read as follows:

Exception:

In a single-family dwelling, make-up air is not required for range hood exhaust systems capable of exhausting:

(a) Four hundred cubic feet per minute or less; or

(b) More than 400 cubic feet per minute but no more than 800 cubic feet per minute if there are no gravity vent appliances within the conditioned living space of the structure.

***Section 515. Add section to read as follows:***

**SECTION 515**

**MAUSOLEUM RELIEF VENT**

**515.1 General**. A pressure relief vent shall be provided for each crypt. Niches shall not require pressure relief systems.

**515.2 Materials**. The pressure relief vent pipe and fittings shall conform to one of the standards listed in Table M515.2A and Table M515.2B.

**TABLE 515.2A**

**CRYPT PRESSURE RELIEF PIPE**

MATERIAL STANDARD

Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) plastic pipe ASTM D 2661

ASTM F 628 CSA B181.1

Polylefin pipe CSA CAN/CSA - B181.3

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic pipe (Type DWV) ASTM D 2665

ASTM D 2949, ASTM F 891

**Table 515.2B**

**CRYPT PRESSURE RELIEF FITTINGS**

MATERIAL STANDARD

Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) plastic pipe ASTM D 3311, CSA B181.1

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic pipe (Type DWV) ASTM D 3311, ASTM D 2949, ASTM F 891

Plastic, general ASTM F 409

**515.3 Pressure Relief Vent**. For family mausoleum units where all crypts are bordering an exterior wall, pressure relief ventilation shall be provided from the crypt to the outside of the mausoleum through the exterior wall or roof. For all other mausoleum units, each crypt shall have a pressure relief vent from the crypt to the roof of the mausoleum. The minimum nominal pipe size shall be 1 inch (25 mm). The system shall have a minimum of one-eighth unit vertical to 12 units horizontal (1-percent slope). The piping shall not be trapped or installed to trap water or condensate.

**515.4 Termination.** Except for family mausoleum units where all crypts are bordering an exterior wall, crypt pressure relief system shall extend through the roof and terminate at least 6 inches (152 mm) above the roof and at least 10 feet (3048 mm) from any openable opening, air intake, or property line. The termination of the relief system pipe shall be done by a roof and vent cap compatible with the relief pressure pipe. The roof and vent cap shall be waterproof. For family mausoleum units where all crypts are bordering an exterior wall, pressure relief ventilation shall be provided from the crypt to the outside of the mausoleum through the exterior wall or roof.

***Section 516. Add a section to read as follows:***

**SECTION 516**

**CARBON MONOXIDE CONTROL SYSTEMS**

**516.1 Carbon monoxide control systems.**See Section 908.7 ~~916~~ of the *Florida Building Code, Building.*

***Chapter 6, Duct Systems***

***Section 601 General. Add Section 601.5 to read as follows:***

**601.5 Balanced Return Air.** Restricted return air occurs in buildings when returns are located in central zones and closed interior doors impede air flow to the return grill or when ceiling spaces are used as return plenums and fire walls restrict air movement from one portion of the return plenum to another. Provisions shall be made in both residential and commercial buildings to avoid unbalanced air flows and pressure differentials caused by restricted return air. Pressure differentials across closed doors where returns are centrally located shall be limited to 0.01 inch WC (2.5 pascals) or less. Pressure differentials across fire walls in ceiling space plenums shall be limited to 0.01 inch WC (2.5 pascals) by providing air duct pathways or air transfer pathways from the high pressure zone to the low zone.

**Exceptions:**

1.      Transfer ducts may achieve this by increasing the return transfer 1½ times the cross sectional area (square inches) of the supply duct entering the room or space it's serving and the door having at least an unrestricted 1 inch undercut to achieve proper return air balance.

2.      Transfer grilles shall use 50 square inches (of grille area) to 100 cfm (of supply air) for sizing through-the-wall transfer grilles and using an unrestricted 1 inch undercutting of doors to achieve proper return air balance.

3.      Habitable rooms only shall be required to meet these requirements for proper balanced return air excluding bathrooms, closets, storage rooms and laundry rooms, except that all supply air into the master suite shall be included.

**SECTION 603**

**DUCT CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION**

***Section 603.1.1. Add section to read as follows:***

**603.1.1 Space provided.**Sufficient space shall be provided adjacent to all mechanical components located in or forming a part of the air distribution system to assure adequate access for (1) construction and sealing in accordance with the requirements of Section 603.1 of this code; (2) inspection; and (3) cleaning and maintenance. A minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) is considered sufficient space around air handling units.

**Exception**: Retrofit or replacement units not part of a renovation are exempt from the minimum clearance requirement

***Chapter 10, Boilers, Water Heaters and Pressure Vessels***

*1001.1 Scope (Exceptions), add exception 8 as follows:*

*8.* Boiler or pressure vessels subject to inspection as provided in the Florida Statutes 554-Boiler Safety Act, administered by the Boiler Safety Program, State Fire Marshal’s Office.

***Section 1004, Boilers, Installation. Add a section to read as follows:***

**1004.2.1 Carbon monoxide testing.** Boilers shall be tested to a maximum level of 50 PPM of carbon monoxide as per OSHA guidelines.

***Chapter 15, Referenced Standards***

***Change to make Florida-specific references as follows:***

**ASTM**

**Standard Referenced in**

**Reference code section**

**Number Title number**

D 2661—01 Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS) Schedule 40 Plastic Drain, Waste, and Vent

Pipe and Fittings…………………………………………………………………………Table 515.2A

D2665—01 Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Drain, Waste, and Vent Pipe and Fittings…………Table 515.2A

D 2949—97 3.25-in. Outside Diameter Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Drain, Waste,

and Vent Pipe and Fittings………………………………………………………Table 515.2A, 515.2B

D 3311—94 Drain, Waste, and Vent (DWV) Plastic Pipe Fittings Patterns………………………….. Table 515.2B

F 409—02 Thermoplastic Accessible and Replaceable Plastic Tube and Tubular Fittings Table 515.2B

F 628—01 Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS) Schedule 40 Plastic Drain, Waste, and Vent

Pipe with Cellular Core…………………………………………………………………………………..Table 515.2A

F 891—00 Coextruded Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Pipe with Cellular Core…..Table 515.2A, Table 515.2B

**CSA**

**Standard Referenced in**

**Reference code section**

**Number Title number**

CAN/CSA B 181.1—99 ABS Drain, Waste, and Vent Pipe and Pipe Fittings………………..Tables 515.2A, 515.2B

CAN/CSA B 181.3—99 Polyolefin Laboratory Drainage Systems with revisions through

October 1990………………………………………………………………………Table 515.2A

**Florida Codes Florida Building Commission**

**c/o Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation**

**Building Codes and Standards**

**1940 North Monroe Street, Suite 90A**

**Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0722.**

Standard Referenced in code

reference number Title section number

FBC-B— 5th Edition (14) ~~ICC-12 International Building Code~~  Florida Building Code, Building 101.1, 201.3, 202, 301.12, 301.15, 302.1, 302.2,

308.8, 401.4, 406.1, 502.10,

502.10.1, 504.2, 506.3.3, 506.3.10, 3.12.2, 506.4.1, 509.1,

510.6, 510.6.3, 510.6.2, 510.7, 511.1.5, 513.1,

513.2, 513.3, 513.4.3, 513.5, 513.5.2, 513.5.2.1,

513.6.2, 513.10.5, 513.12, 513.12.2, 513.20,

602.2.1.5.1, 602.2.1.5.2, 602.3, 603.1, 603.7,

607.1.1, 607.5.1, 607.5.2,

607.5.3, 607.5.4, 607.5.4.1, 607.5.5, 607.5.5.1,

607.6, 607.6.2, 801.3, 801.16.1,

801.18.4, 902.1, 908.3, 908.4, 910.3, 925.1,

1004.6, 1105.1, 1206.4, 1402.4, 1402.4.1

FBC-EC—5th Edition (14) ~~ICC-12 International Energy Conservation Code~~ Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation 301.2, 303.3, 312.1, 604.1, 1204.1, 1204.2

FBC-FG—5th Edition (14) ~~ICC-12 International Fuel Gas Code~~ Florida Building Code, Fuel Gas 101.2, 201.3, 301.3, 701.1, 801.1, 901.1, 906.1, 1101.5

FBC-P—5th Edition (14) ~~ICC-12 International Plumbing Code~~ Florida Building Code, Plumbing 201.3, 512.2, 908.5, 1002.1, 1002.2, 1002.3,

1005.2, 1006.6, 1008.2, 1009.3, 1101.4,

1201.1, 1206.2, 1206.3, 1401.2

FFPC—5th Edition (14) ~~IFC-12 International Fire Code~~ Florida Fire Prevention Code 201.3, 310.1, 311.1, 502.4, 502.5, 502.7.2, 502.8.1, 502.9.5, 502.9.5.2,

502.9.5.3, 502.9.8.2, 502.9.8.3, 502.9.8.5, 502.9.8.6, 502.10,

502.10.3, 502.16.2, 509.1, 510.2.1, 510.2.2, 510.4,

511.1.1 513.12.3, 513.15, 513.16, 513.17, 513.18, 513.19,

513.20.2, 513.20.3, 606.2.1, 908.7, 1101.9,

1105.3, 1105.9, 1106.6, 1301.1, 1301.2

~~IRC-12 International Residential Code 101.2~~

***Delete all references to ICC codes in their entirety.***

**~~ICC~~**