MARQUIS

Issue: Vertical accessibility to the cold plunge pool in the spa area.

Analysis: The applicant is requesting a waiver from providing vertical accessibility to the cold pool located in the spa area of a new, \$185,000,000 high rise residential building. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing requirements as well as HRS rules constrict the amount of space available adjacent to the pool in the spa. A pool deck spa has comparable facilities, but entrance into the water requires the assistance of an attendant. The spas and saunas have been designed to be accessible, and the only issue is independent access to the pool. The building official concluded that the pool deck facility is equivalent to the services provided in the main spa area.

Project Progress:

The project is completed.

Items to be Waived:

Vertical accessibility to the cold pool, as required by Section 553.509, Florida Statutes.

- 553.509 Vertical accessibility. 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: MARQUIS			
Address: 1100 BISCAYNE BLVD. MIAMI, FLORIDA 33127			
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: <u>SERGIO S. BAKAS</u>			
Applicant's Address: 801 BRICKELL AVENUE, SUITE 1100, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131			
Applicant's Telephone:(305) 372-1812 FAX:(305) 372-1175			
Applicant's E-mail Address: SBAKAS@ARQUITECTONICA.COM			
Relationship to Owner: _ARCHITECT OF RECORD			
Owner's Name: LEVIEV BOYMELGREEN MARQUIS DEVELOPERS. LLC.			
Owner's Address: 3050 BISCAYNE BLVD, SUITE 700, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137			
Owner's Telephone: (305) 571-4030 FAX: (305) 571-2016			
Owner's E-mail Address: AGALBUT @HUDCAD.GOM Signature of Owner: White Company of the Company of			
Contact Person: ALEX SMITH JR.			
Contact Person's Telephone: (954) 914-1695 E-mail Address: ASMITH@AFRICAISRAEL.US			

7. Requirements requested to be waived. Please reference the applicable section of Florida law. Only Florida-specific accessibility requirements may be waived.
Issue
1: Section 553.509, Florida Statutes, "Vertical Accessibility" and Florida Building Code
2001 Section 11-4.1.13.
Issue
2:
Issue
3:
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.
[X] The hardship is caused by a condition or set of conditions affecting the owner which does not affect owners in general.
] 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

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.		
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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.

This is a summary of the accessibility issue for the cold plunges located on the level 12 women's and men's spas. The program for these areas called for a cold plunge adjacent to the steam room and sauna that would give patrons an option to experience the health benefits of going from a heated environment to a cold environment. The areas that are designated for the cold plunges, steam rooms and saunas are areas with limited space due to structural and MEP components, which made it difficult simultaneously to meet both HRS and ADA requirements. Due to the limited space, permanent vertical access to the cold plunges contained on the spa levels could not be introduced. However, the layout for both the women's and men's cold plunges meets the requirements set by HRS, which require at least 50% of the area surrounding

the pool to be accessible to at least 48". (The steam rooms and saunas are designed for accessibility and meet the clearances as required by ADA 2004 Guidelines). During the permitting review process, the City plans reviewer raised the question of accessibility to the cold plunges, and we in turn addressed the question by providing a substantially equivalent facility on the pool deck on level 14. On the pool deck, the design includes an accessible route to the cold and hot spa water's edge. This was seen by the plans reviewer as an equivalent facilitation as stated in Chapter 1 of the ADA 2004 Guidelines Section 103 "Equivalent Facilitation." With this interpretation established, we proceeded with the scheduled construction activities with no further revisions to the cold plunges on level 12.

During the TCO process, the building inspector reversed the prior decision of the plans reviewer and did not accept the pool deck hot and cold spa as equivalent facilitation. This new interpretation was brought to the attention of the building official, and he found that a vertical means of access is required for the cold plunges on the 12th floor. Although ADA guidelines for spa and pools are not written into any federal or local statutes, vertical accessibility is required per the Florida Building Code 2001 Section 11-4.1.3. Due to the limited space in these areas on the 12th floor, as well as the requirement to comply with HRS regulations regarding access surrounding pool areas, introducing a permanent chair lift would not be practical, as it will decrease the clear width for egress from the pools.

A portable lift is provided at the level 12 spa to assist in access to the cold plunges, allowing a person with disability to rise to the level of the cold plunge deck; however, this system requires assistance by staff. Section 103 of the ADA 2004 Guidelines states, "Nothing in these requirements prevents the use of designs, products, or technologies as alternatives to those prescribed, provided they result in substantially equivalent or greater accessibility and usability."

The waiver should be granted because the spirit of the ADA guideline was addressed by providing the portable lift for the level 12 cold plunges, together with access to the pool deck spas on level 14, which are accessible as prescribed by ADAG 2004 and FBC 2001 Section 11-4.1.3. Moreover, in addition to the accessible cold plunge area on the 14th floor, the steam and sauna rooms in the spa areas are located within 35' (in the men's area) and 40' (in the women's area) of the shower areas, which would allow for a similar experience as a cold plunge--i.e., the opportunity to experience the health benefits of going from a heated environment to a cold environment.

Printed Name

Phone number: (305) 372-1812

(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 13 th	day of <u>JULY</u>	, 20 09
	usi hull	
Signature () 0	
SERGIO S. BAK	AS	
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. SECTION 11-4.1.13 FBC.
b. SECTION 553.509 F.S.
C
Has there been any permitted construction activity on this building during the past three years? If so, what was the cost of construction?
[X] Yes [] No Cost of Construction <u>\$185,000,000.00</u>
Comments/Recommendation WE RECOMMOND APPROVAL PORSED ON THE
SAME LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE TO THE WISTOMERS.
Jurisdiction CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA
Building Official or Designee: Signature
MARIANO V. FERNANDER Printed Name
Ev 689 Certification Number
<u>C305) 4161107 (no5) 4161066</u> Telephone/FAX
Address: 444 SW 2 AVE. MAM EL 33130











