



STATE OF FLORIDA  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

*"Dedicated to making Florida a better place to call home"*

JES BUSH  
 Governor

STEVEN M. SEIBERT  
 Secretary

November 5, 2002

Mr. Oriol Torres, Electrical Code Compliance Officer  
 Building Code Compliance  
 Metro-Dade Flagler Building  
 140 West Flagler Street, Suite 1603  
 Miami, Florida 33130-1563

Dear Mr. Torres:

This is in response to your letter requesting an interpretation on the placement of visible signaling appliances as referenced in the Florida Building Code, Building Volume, Chapter 11 Accessibility, Section 11-4.28.3, Visual Alarm Code Requirements. To provide a response to your request, the staff of the Building Codes and Standards Office, Department of Community Affairs, reviewed the relevant sections of the Code and obtained a verbal response from the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) on the subject matter. It is the state's policy to maintain consistency between the state building code and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

Based on the staff review and the DOJ response, it is the staff opinion that the requirements of Section 11-4.28.3(6) of the Code are only limited to the wall mounted visual alarm signal appliances. Ceiling mounted visual alarms are not addressed by the Code. For additional information relevant to visual alarms contact the State Fire Marshal for criteria specified in the Fire Safety Standards and the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

Thank you for your continued interest in the development of the Florida Building Code. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call us at 850-487-1824.

Sincerely,

Mo Madani, CBO, Manager  
 Building Codes and Standards Office

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