



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Douglas M. Duncan
County Executive

Gordon A. Aoyagi
Fire Administrator

DIVISION OF FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE INTERPRETATION 98-2

CODE REFERENCE:

NFPA 101: 8-1.4, classification of assembly occupancy
8-3.4, assembly fire alarm system
8-3.5, assembly occupancy sprinkler system

BACKGROUND:

The above code, with some exceptions & amendments, requires voice fire alarm & sprinkler systems for assembly occupancies with an occupant load over 300. However, it is not clear as to how to classify mixed occupancies, specifically when one or more smaller assembly rooms are mixed with other occupancies.

INTERPRETATION:

The voice fire alarm & sprinkler requirements will apply when the combined occupant load of only the assembly areas is greater than 300. If multiple smaller assembly rooms with a combined occupant load of 300 or less are mixed with another occupancy, then the assembly fire alarm & sprinkler requirements will not apply, even if the total floor or building occupant load exceeds 300. The alarm & sprinkler requirements of the other occupancies will still apply.

PREPARED BY:

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FIRE MARSHAL

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