

## G 33-15

### 308.3.4, 308.4.2, 310.5.1, [F] 903.2.8.4 (IFC 903.2.8.4)

**Proponent:** Carl Baldassarra, P.E., FSFPE, Chair, Code Technology Committee, representing Code Technology Committee (CTC@iccsafe.org)

#### 2015 International Building Code

Revise as follows:

**308.3.4 Five or fewer persons receiving custodial care.** A facility with five or fewer persons receiving custodial care shall be classified as Group R-3 or shall comply with the *International Residential Code* provided an *automatic sprinkler system* is installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 or Section P2904 of the *International Residential Code*.

**308.4.2 Five or fewer persons receiving medical care.** A facility with five or fewer persons receiving medical care shall be classified as Group R-3 or shall comply with the *International Residential Code* provided an *automatic sprinkler system* is installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 or Section P2904 of the *International Residential Code*.

**310.5.1 Care facilities within a dwelling.** Care facilities for

A dwelling with five or fewer persons receiving custodial or medical care that are within a single family dwelling are, shall be permitted to empty be constructed in accordance with the *International Residential Code* provided an *automatic sprinkler system* is installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 or Section P2904 of the *International Residential Code*.

#### 2015 International Fire Code

Revise as follows:

**903.2.8.4 Care facilities.** An *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 shall be permitted in care facilities a dwelling with five or fewer individuals in a single family dwelling providing custodial or medical care.

**Reason:** The intent of this proposal is to coordinate the language between sections and to let the IRC requirements determine the sprinkler regulations. The provisions for 5 or fewer persons receiving care under Group I-1 and I-2 (308.3.4, 308.4.2) is strictly a reference to the requirements in Group R-3 (310.5.1). If a care facility is not within a dwelling, it is a Group R-3. If care is provided for individuals within a home, they can follow the IRC for construction requirements.

The dwelling with 5 or fewer persons receiving care can literally be single family homes or small group home. The Group R-4 facilities were developed to be consistent with the Fair Housing Act. Over time, changes have been made to the codes that have resulted in jurisdictions being subject to discrimination lawsuits under the Fair Housing Act.

The IRC has a sprinkler requirement, so these homes should be permitted to be constructed in accordance with the IRC. Forcing a facility to drag a sprinkler system with them, just in case a jurisdiction may decide to not require single family home to sprinkler, is not good code practice.

NFPA 13D sprinkler systems are required for care facilities with 5 or fewer residents (Section 903.2.8.4) that decide to construct in the IBC. The proposed wording is for consistency in the language in Chapter 3.

The change to IFC 903.2.8.4 is strictly consistency in terminology and is not a technical change.

The ICC Code Technology Committee (CTC) has just completed its 10th year. The ICC Board has decided to sunset the CTC. The sunset plan includes re-assigning many of the CTC Areas of Study to the applicable Code Action Committee (CAC). The two remaining CTC Areas of Study are Care Facilities and Elevator Lobbies/WTC Elevator issues.

This proposal falls under the Care Facilities Area of Study. Information on the CTC, including: the sunset plan; meeting agendas; minutes; reports; resource documents; presentations; and all other materials developed in conjunction with the CTC effort can be downloaded from the CTC website at:

<http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/CTC/Pages/default.aspx>.

**Cost Impact:** Will not increase the cost of construction

Sprinklers requirements for homes are addressed in the IRC. Working within the family of codes, this is not a change in requirements.

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