



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
 Department of Fire Services



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Article: 210.12(B), 210.12(C)

December 7, 2023

Jeff Perras



Board of Fire Prevention Regulations
 527 CMR 12:00 Interpretation Committee
 Department of Fire Services
 PO Box 1025, State Road
 Stow, MA 01775

Background:

Request for Interpretation Relative to 527 CMR 12.00, 210.12(B), 210.12(C)

Question # 1: Is the intent of Article 210.12(C) to require AFCI protection only in the *dormitory unit*, as established by the rated separations required by NFPA 101 and IBC, thus requiring AFCI protection only within the confines of the sleeping units or dormitory suites created by fire-resistance rated separations?

Response: No.

Question # 2: Is the intent of Article 210.12(C) to require AFCI protection throughout the entire building, regardless of fire-resistance rated separations between sleeping areas because the building has sleeping accommodations provided for more than 16 persons, and the entire building is considered a *dormitory unit*?

Response: Yes

Question 3: Is the intent of Article 210.12(C) to require AFCI protection for lighting when Article 210.12(C) applies?

Response: Yes

Question 4: Is the intent of Article 210.12(B) to require AFCI protection only in the *dwelling unit*, as established by the rated separations required by NFPA 101 and IBC, thus requiring AFCI protection only within the confines of the *dwelling unit* created by fire resistance rated separations?

Response: No

Question 5: Is the intent of Article 210.12(B) to require AFCI protection throughout the entire building, regardless of fire-resistance rated separations between *dwelling units* because the building has *dwelling units*?

Response: Yes

Question 6: Is the intent of Article 210.12(C) to require AFCI protection for emergency lighting when Article 210.12(C) applies?

Response: Yes

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Anthony P. Caputo, Chairman
Board of Fire Prevention Regulations