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ANTHONY P. CAPUTO  
CHAIRMAN

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

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Article: 210.12(B), 210.12(C)

**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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. P. Caputo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anthony P. Caputo, Chairman  
Board of Fire Prevention Regulations