



OKLAHOMA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Marshal's Office

Interpretation

Interpretation #: OKCAHJ-2017-02	Subject of Interpretation: Residential Adult Care Facilities/Assisted Living Centers	
Code Reference: IFC Section 202, 903.4, 907.2.6, 907.2.10, and NFPA 72, 17.12.		
Reviewed By: Robert Crisp	Title: Assistant Fire Marshal	Effective Date: 10/11/2017
Approved By: Harold Thompson	Title: Fire Marshal	Revision Date: N/A

Purpose:

To provide guidance and consistency in the fire and life safety inspections of group homes, adult care facilities, assisted living centers, and nursing homes operating within a single-family home structure.

Description of Code Reference:

International Fire Code (IFC) allows institutional (I-2 or I-4) use groups such as assisted living facilities and group homes to be classified as residential (R-3 or R-4) use groups while operating in a one-and-two family dwelling structure provided the building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system.

Policy based on the Interpretation of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ):

Group homes, adult care facilities, assisted living centers, and nursing homes that are operating their business within a single-family home structure will be required to obtain a change of use building permit (BLDC) and maintain code compliance requirements of NFPAs 13D and 72, and the IFC in regards to installing an automatic sprinkler system and having all valves electrically supervised by a listed fire alarm control unit.

It is determined by this office that any type of 24-hour off-site monitoring will satisfy the requirement of NFPA 72 and the monitoring of the fire sprinkler system. This will, at a minimum, ensure that the occupants of these businesses receive the same required fire protection that would be offered if they were located in a commercial structure under the same occupancy use group. For the purposes of tracking and distinguishing from commercial business structures, the code FRNH will be utilized for all group homes, adult care facilities, assisted living centers and nursing homes that have been approved to operate within a single-family residential home structure.