



# OKLAHOMA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Fire Marshal's Office

### Interpretation

<b>Interpretation #:</b> INTERP-2022-01	<b>Subject of Interpretation:</b> Fire	
<b>Code Reference:</b> IFC-2015-Section 1010.1.9		
<b>Reviewed By:</b> Prince Morgan	<b>Title:</b> Assistant Fire Marshal	<b>Effective Date:</b> 9-8-2022
<b>Approved By:</b> Harold Thompson	<b>Title:</b> Fire Marshal	<b>Revision Date:</b> N/A

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarification and consistency regarding code requirements for door hardware in commercial occupancies.

**Description of Code Reference:**

2009 IFC Section 1010.1.9.5 states door unlatching shall not require more than one operation. Section 1010.1.9 states egress doors shall be readily openable from the egress side without the use of a key or special knowledge or effort. Section 1010.1.9.1 states door hardware on doors required to be accessible by Chapter 11 of the International Building Code shall not require tight grasping, tight pinching or twisting of the wrist to operate. Section 1010.1.9.3 discusses where a door may be locked.

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

The policy of the Fire Marshal's office is to allow the main door or doors of Group A (occupant load of 300 or less), Groups B, F, M, and S and in places of religious worship to be equipped with a thumb-turn deadbolt. The deadbolt must comply with the following: it must be readily distinguishable as locked; a visible durable sign must be on the door or adjacent to it stating, "THIS DOOR TO REMAIN UNLOCKED WHEN THIS SPACE IS OCCUPIED."

All other required exits shall only have one latching/locking mechanism. No lock or other device (deadbolt, security bar, etc.) must be on the door that is not integral with the unlatching mechanism. Locks interconnected with the door handle are allowed. This also applies to all egress doors required to be accessible by Chapter 11 of the International Building Code.

Non-required exterior doors that do not comply with the above requirements shall not have an exit sign. They must also have "NO EXIT" on the door. The word "NO" shall be in letters 2 in high with a stroke of 3/8 in. The word "EXIT" shall be in letters 1 in. high with the word "EXIT" below the word "NO." This is referenced from NFPA 101, 2018, 7.10.8.3.1. The letters must be a contrasting color to the door.

To comply Section 1010.1.9.1 round knobs or similar hardware are not allowed on doors required to be accessible by IBC.