



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

EDWIN W. EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

COL. PAUL W. FONTENOT  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

GROUND FAULT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Plan Review Architects/Engineers  
FROM: Jerry W. Jones, Chief Architect  
SUBJECT: Citations in Review Letters for Ground Fault  
Circuit Interrupters (GFCI's)  
DATE: April 24, 1995

A question has been raised regarding citations in review letters calling for GFCI in all locations where a lavatory exists.

i.e.: Coffee rooms in business occupancies, wash basins in "other occupancies", etc.

This appears to be above and beyond the requirements of NFPA 70 (1993 Edition) National Electrical Code.

Pursuant to NFPA 70: 210-8(b)

GFCI's are required in occupancies other than dwelling units in bathrooms. Bathrooms are defined as an area including a basin with one or more of the following: A toilet, a tub or a shower.

Based on this provision, other areas such as coffee rooms, kitchenettes and stand alone hand wash basins are not required to have GFCI receptacles. Please review accordingly.

JWJ/adg

cc: State Fire Marshal District Offices

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