

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-647-0000**

Manual Pulls for Special Locking Areas

Code: 2018 Fire Prevention Code
Section: 907.2.6.3.2.1

Date: January 1, 2019

Code: 2018 NC Building Code
Section: 407.12, 907.2.6.3.2.1

Question:

Can the pull stations for manual fire alarm systems be moved and locked for Group I-1 and I-2 special locking occupancies designed in accordance with Section 407.12 of the North Carolina Building Code, similar to what is currently allowed for Group I-3 occupancies in Section 907.2.6.3.2.1?

Answer:

Yes. The special locking arrangement allowed in Section 407.11 of the North Carolina Building Code (NCBC) allows for a wing or ward of a Group I-1 or I-2 occupancy to be locked, placing the occupants under restraint. The characteristics of a Group I-3 occupancy is similar in nature to the special locking arrangement allowed in Section 407.12 of the NCBC.

For this reason, it is our opinion that the accommodations allowing the manual fire alarm box to be located at a staff attended location and locked in accordance with Section 907.2.6.3.2.1 that is allowed for Group I-3 occupancies, also applies to areas subject to the special locking provisions of Section 407.12 of the NCBC.