

A.23.3.8 The requirements in Table 23.3.8 for smoke-resistant and fire-rated separations include taking the necessary precautions to restrict the spread of smoke through the air-handling system. However, the intent is not that smoke dampers are required to be provided for each opening. Smoke dampers would be one acceptable method; however, other techniques, such as allowing the fans to continue to run with 100 percent supply and 100 percent exhaust, would be acceptable.

A.23.4.1.3(2) The automatic smoke venting should be in accordance with NFPA 204, *Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting*, for light hazard occupancies.

A.23.4.5.1.4(1) The term *other physical restraints* is meant to include the use of personal restraint devices, such as handcuffs or shackles, where occupants are secured to the structure or furnishings to restrict movement.

A.23.7.1.2 This requirement is permitted to be met by electronic or oral monitoring systems, visual monitoring, call signals, or other means.

A.23.7.1.3 Periodic, coordinated training should be conducted and should involve detention and correctional facility personnel and personnel of the fire department legally committed to serving the facility.

A.23.7.4 Personal property provides combustible contents for fire development. Therefore, adequate controls are needed to limit the quantity and combustibility of the fuels available to burn to reduce the probability of room flashover. The provisions of 23.7.4 will not, by themselves, prevent room flashover if personal property controls are not provided.

A.23.7.4.5 Mattresses used in detention and correctional facilities should be evaluated with regard to the fire hazards of the environment. The potential for vandalism and excessive wear and tear also should be taken into account when evaluating the fire performance of the mattress. ASTM F 1570, *Standard Guide for Selection of Fire Test Methods for the Assessment of Upholstered Furnishings in Detention and Correctional Facilities*, provides guidance for this purpose.

A.24.1.1.1 The Code specifies that, wherever there are three or more living units in a building, the building is considered an apartment building and is required to comply with either Chapter 90 or Chapter 31, as appropriate. A townhouse unit is considered to be an apartment building if there are three or more units in the building. The type of wall required between units in order to consider them as separate buildings is normally established by the authority having jurisdiction. If the units are separated by a wall of sufficient fire resistance and structural integrity to be considered as separate buildings, the provisions of Chapter 24 apply to each townhouse. Condo-

- (1) An individual or a couple (two people) who rent a house from a landlord and then sublease space for up to three individuals should be considered a family renting to a maximum of three outsiders, and the house should be regulated as a single-family dwelling in accordance with Chapter 24.
- (2) A house rented from a landlord by an individual or couple (two people) in which space is subleased to 4 or more individuals, but not more than 16, should be considered and regulated as a lodging or rooming house in accordance with Chapter 26.
- (3) A residential building that is occupied by 4 or more individuals, but not more than 16, each renting from a landlord, without separate cooking facilities, should be considered and regulated as a lodging or rooming house in accordance with Chapter 26.

A.24.2 The phrase "means of escape" indicates a way out of a residential unit that does not conform to the strict definition of means of egress but does meet the intent of the definition by providing an alternative way out of a building. (See the definition of means of escape in 3.3.171.)

A.24.2.2.3.3 A window with dimensions of 20 in. x 24 in. (510 mm x 610 mm) has an opening of 3.3 ft² (0.31 m²), which is less than the required 3.7 ft² (0.33 m²). Therefore, either the height or width needs to exceed the minimum requirement to provide the required clear area (see Figure A.24.2.2.3.3). The current minimum width and height dimensions, as well as the minimum clear opening, became a requirement of this Code in the 1976 edition and were based on tests conducted to determine the minimum size of the wall opening required to allow a fire fighter wearing complete turnout gear and a self-contained breathing apparatus entry to the room from the exterior to effect search and rescue. Prior editions of the Code limited the width or height, or both, to not less than 22 in. (560 mm) and a clear opening of 5 ft² (0.47 m²). For existing window frames and sash of steel construction, adherence to these dimensional criteria is essential to allow fire fighter entry. For existing window frames and sash of wood construction that can easily be removed prior to entry by fire fighters to achieve the 5 ft² (0.47 m²) hole in the wall, the clear opening created by the occupant upon opening the window from the interior room side is required only to provide an opening measuring not less than 20 in. x 24 in. (510 mm x 610 mm) or 3.3 ft² (0.31 m²).

A.24.2.4.7 It is the intent of this requirement that security measures, where installed, do not prevent egress.

A.24.3.4.1.1 Paragraph 11.5.1.3 of NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, contains related requirements. They specify that, where the interior floor area for a given level of a dwelling unit, excluding garage areas, is greater than 1000 ft² (93 m²), smoke alarms are to be installed as follows:

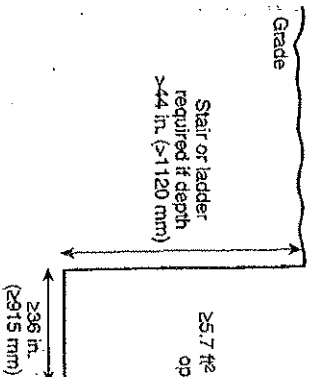
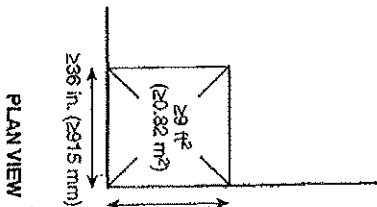


FIGURE A.24.2.2.3.3 Escape Window

A.24.3.4.1.1(2) Paragraphs 11.5.1.1(2) and 11.5.1.1(2) of NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, specify that, where the interior floor area for a given level of a dwelling unit, excluding garage areas, is greater than 1000 ft² (93 m²), smoke alarms are to be installed outside of each separate area, within 21 ft (6.4 m) of any door to