

**MEMORANDUM**  
**MONROE COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT**  
*We strive to be caring, professional, and fair.*



To: Construction Industry  
County Inspectors, Plans Examiners

From: Rick Griffin, Building Official

Date: December 8, 2022

RE: **Building Official**  
**Administrative Directive / Administrative Interpretation – Floating Residential Unit Prohibition Ordinance**

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**MONROE COUNTY FLOATING RESIDENTIAL UNIT PROHIBITION ORDINANCE**

Monroe County Code Section 26-215 defines a “floating structure” as *“a floating entity, with or without accommodations built thereon, which is not primarily used as a means of transportation on water but which serves purposes or provides services typically associated with a structure or other improvement to real property . . . includ[ing], but . . . not limited to, an entity used as a residence, place of business or office with public access, a hotel or motel, a restaurant or lounge, a clubhouse, a meeting facility, a storage or parking facility, or a mining platform, dredge, dragline, or similar facility or entity represented as such.”*

Florida Building Code Section 102.2 provides that the *“provisions of the Florida Building Code shall apply to the construction, erection, alteration, modification, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, location, maintenance, removal and demolition of every public and private building, structure or facility or floating residential structure, or any appurtenances connected or attached to such buildings, structures or facilities. Additions, alterations, repairs and changes of use or occupancy group in all buildings and structures shall comply with the provisions provided in the Florida Building Code, Existing Building.”*

Florida Building Code Section 202 defines a “floating residential unit” as a *“structure primarily designed or constructed as a living unit, built on a floating base, which is not designed primarily as a vessel, is not self-propelled although it may be towed about from place to place, and is primarily intended to be anchored or otherwise moored in a fixed location.”*

Under Article VIII (“Floating Structures”), Chapter 26, Monroe County Code, floating residential units are prohibited in Monroe County.

Thank you,

Rick Griffin  
Building Official