



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA
INSPECTION SERVICES DIVISION
 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1000, Arlington, VA 22201

CODE INTERPRETATION/POLICY

Code/Year N/A	Section of Code § 54.1-402	Title of Code Section/Subsection/Policy Code of Virginia
-------------------------	--------------------------------------	--

Statement/Background of Issue

There has been a desire by our constituency to look at the requirements for sealing drawing by a Registered Design Professional for minor Commercial Construction. Below explains our policy, moving forward, on Arlington County Inspection Services requirements.

Documents submitted for permits for proposed construction must have an architect's or professional engineer's seal as required by § 54.1-402 of the Code of Virginia. The basis of this policy is item 5 which states that "no license as an architect or professional engineer shall be required ... for the following ... additions, remodeling or interior design without a change in occupancy or occupancy load and without modification to the structural system or a change in access or exit patterns or increase in fire hazard"

Use Group B:

If the scope of the project is limited to the following conditions, an architect's or professional engineer's seal is not required. *

1. Scope of work is limited to 750 square feet
2. Scope of work does not include a change of occupancy or change in occupancy load
3. Scope of work does not include a change in access or exit patterns
4. Scope of work does not require modification to the structural system
5. Scope of work does not include any additional load on the existing electrical systems
6. Scope of work does not include fire-rated wall, ceiling, or floor assemblies

If documents are not prepared by an architect or professional engineer, then the documents must be signed by the individual (not company) responsible for the design, including the individual's occupation and address.

Use Group R-2:

If the scope of the project is limited to the following conditions, an architect's or professional engineer's seal is not required. *

1. Scope of work is limited to the interior of only one existing unit, and does not include creating new units.
2. Scope of work does not include a change of occupancy or change in occupancy load
3. Scope of work does not include a change in access or exit patterns
4. Scope of work is does not require modification to the structural system
5. Scope of work does not include fire-rated walls, ceilings, or floors
6. Scope of work does not include any additional load on the existing electrical systems

If documents are not prepared by an architect or professional engineer, then the documents must be signed by the individual (not company) responsible for the design, including the individual's occupation and address.

*The building official may require a seal even if not required to do so by this policy and may be required upon inspection.

Interpretation/Policy No. 2018-01	Date May 5, 2018	Division Chief/Building Official Shahriar Amiri
---	----------------------------	---