



## COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

5 County Complex Court, Suite 120, Prince William, Virginia 22192-5308  
(703) 792-6930 Metro 631-1703 Fax: (703) 792-5285

**DEPARTMENT OF  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES**  
Division of  
Building Development

### **BUILDING OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION 2015-06**

**March 09, 2020**

**CODE/EDITION: VIRGINIA UNIFORM STATEWIDE BUILDING CODE/2015**

**SECTION(S): IBC/2015, Section 1010 Doors, Gates, Turnstiles  
IBC/2015, Section 1010.1.9 Door Operations  
IBC/2015, Section 1010.1.9.3 Locks and Latches**

#### **QUESTION:**

1. If a pair of doors is installed with one of the doors being an inactive leaf, is a lock or latch permitted to prevent operation of the inactive leaf?

#### **ANSWER:**

1. If the active door leaf and inactive door leaf are egress doors, approved automatic flush bolts are permitted to be used in the inactive door leaf in accordance with Section 1008.1.9.3 Locks and Latches, Paragraph 3:

"3. Where egress doors are used in pairs, approved automatic flush bolts shall be permitted to be used, provided that the door leaf having the automatic flush bolts has no doorknob or surface-mounted hardware."

If the inactive door leaf is not intended to be an egress door, a lock or latch is permitted to prevent operation of the inactive door leaf provided that the inactive door leaf has no doorknob or surface-mounted hardware.

Eric M. Mays, P.E.  
Building Official