



## California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	June 10, 2010	Interpretation	10-023
Topic	Means of Egress Illumination		
Code Section(s)	<b>2007 California Building Code Section 1006 &amp; 1006.1</b>		
Requested by	Construction Inspection, Inc. David M. Benicki 4 Falcon Ridge Drive Pomona, CA 91766 (909)456-0357 (909)468-4046 <a href="mailto:dbenicki@ci2.us">dbenicki@ci2.us</a>		

2007 California Building Code, Section 1006 Means of Egress Illumination, 1006.1 Illumination Required.

1. Please confirm that every occupied space, as part of the access portion of the means of egress, will require egress lighting when occupied regardless of the occupant load or the number of means of egress required.

**Yes. All means of egress must be illuminated by artificial lighting during the entire time the building is occupied.**

2. Would it be allowed for the primary lighting to provide the required means of egress illumination where the primary lighting is on at all times?

**Yes. When the space served by the means of egress is occupied.**

3. Is the required egress lighting allowed to be switched off?

**Only when the building is not occupied**

4. Does the phrase “any time the portion of the means of egress is occupied” allow the egress illumination to be turned off when that portion of the means of egress is unoccupied, as long as the minimum egress illumination is automatically restored when the space becomes occupied?

**Yes**

5. Is egress lighting allowed to be switched off providing total absence of light for the purpose of a film projector or other presentation in a classroom, large office or similar, while the space is occupied?

**Where it complies with the Exception to CBC 1006.2**