



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	11/16/2006	Interpretation #	06-059
Topic	Building Area		
Code Section(s)	California Building Code Section 503		
Requested by	David E. Casey Division of State Architect 1102 Q Street, Suite 5100 Sacramento California 95835		

Does the definition of “floor area” include roof overhangs, exit balconies, or covered walkways (that do not meet the definition of a pedestrian walkway) that are supported by the building on one side and separate columns or support on the other?

No; The floor area is measured from the inside face of the surrounding exterior walls of the building or position. Therefore, overhangs, exit balconies, or covered walkways are not included. The allowable floor area is used to determine building size per California Building Code Table 5B.