



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	May 16, 2007	Interpretation #	06-072
Topic	Encroachment in Door Widths		
Code Section(s)	Title 24 section 1003.3.1.3		
Requested by	Michael Ryan Murray and Downs Architects 3025 Sacramento Street Placerville, CA 95667 530) 676-7061		

I would appreciate clarification regarding the clear door width requirements for exit doorways per California Building Code section 1003.3.1.3. My specific question is whether panic hardware can encroach upon this 32" width. It appears that other authorities specifically exclude panic hardware from this requirement (for example NFPA Life Safety Code handbook section 7.2.1.2.2) but I can not find any similar exclusions in the CBC.

No. The width specified is the clear unobstructed width. The panic hardware is not allowed to encroach into the required clear width.