California State Fire Marshal
CODE INTERPRETATION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Issued</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
<th>18-007</th>
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<td>December 3, 2018</td>
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**Topic**
Change of Occupancy Use

| Code Section(s) | 2016 CFC §102.3, 903.2, 903.2.12, 1101.1, 1101.2, 1103.5 |

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<tr>
<th>Requested by</th>
<th>Timothy Spears</th>
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<td>Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District</td>
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<th>Date Received</th>
<th>March 1, 2018</th>
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**Question 1:**
Do the provisions of California Fire Code sections 903.2 and 903.2.1.2 apply to an existing building or facility that experiences a change in use or occupancy as identified in CFC section 102.3 from a Group M to a Group A-2 with a proposed occupant load greater than 100?

**Response 1:**
Yes. Per CFC Section 102.3, changes shall not be made in use or occupancy of any structure that would place the structure in a different division of the same group or occupancy or in a different group of occupancies, unless such structure is made to comply with the requirements of this code and the California Building Code.

**Question 2:**
Is a building with a change in use from a Group M to a Group A-2, with a proposed occupant load greater than 100, required to install an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with CFC 903.2.1.2?

**Response 2:**
Yes.

**Question 3:**
Do the code sections located in 2016 CFC Chapter 11, Construction Requirements for Existing Buildings, supersede the requirements elsewhere in the Fire Code for a building undergoing a change in use or occupancy?

**Response 3:**
No. The provisions of Chapter 11 would not be applicable for requirements resulting in a change of use of an existing building, unless specifically adopted by local ordinance. 
Note: The OSFM only adopts specific portions of Chapter 11.
Question 4:
Do the conditions in section 1103.5, Sprinkler Systems, supersede the conditions located in section 903.2.1.2 for installing a fire sprinkler system in a building undergoing a change in use?

Response 4:
No. The conditions in section 1103.5 would not be applicable for requirements resulting in a change of use of an existing building.

**Note: Section 1103.5 is not adopted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal**