



BUILDING OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION 2018-07
July 01, 2021

CODE/EDITION: VIRGINIA UNIFORM STATEWIDE BUILDING CODE/2018

SECTION(S): IBC/2018, Section 1010.1 Doors
IBC/2018, Section 1010.2 Gates
IBC/2018, Section 1028.5 Access to a Public Way

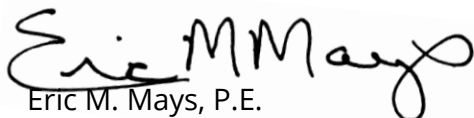
QUESTION:

1. If a fenced in area (i.e. playground; outside storage area; unloading area) serves as part of the exit discharge for a building, is the fence required to have an opening(s) and/or gate(s) installed to prevent obstruction of the Exit Discharge?
2. When a fence opening or gate is required to prevent the obstruction of the Exit Discharge, is the fence opening or gate required to comply with Section 1010.1 Doors?

ANSWER:

1. Yes, unless the area complies with IBC Section 1028.5 Access to Public Way, Exceptions.
2. Yes.

(NOTE: For daycares and schools, if full time supervision is provided, a Code Modification Request may be considered with regard to the requirement to install panic hardware on the fence gate.)


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Building Official