



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

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**DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES**
Division of
Building Development

BUILDING OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION 2015-07

March 09, 2020

CODE/EDITION: VIRGINIA UNIFORM STATEWIDE BUILDING CODE/2012

**SECTION(S): IBC/2015, Section 1010.1 Doors, Gates, Turnstiles
IBC/2015, Section 1010.2 Gates
IBC/2015, 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 1 through 4.
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.

Eric M. Mays, P.E.
Building Official