

# BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing  
**AIBC, EGBC, BOABC**

**File No: 24-0083**

**INTERPRETATION**

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Subject: Resistance to Forced Entry for Doors Between Dwelling Units

Keywords: Dwelling Unit, Door, Security

Building Code Reference(s): 9.7.5.2

## Questions:

1. Are the requirements for resistance to forced entry applicable to an interconnecting swing door between side-by-side dwelling units?
2. If the answer to question is yes, does the door require 2 separate deadbolts, with one on each side?

## Interpretation:

1. Yes.

Article 9.7.5.2 is titled "Resistance to Forced Entry for Swinging Doors". Sentence 9.7.5.2.(1) states that this Article is applicable to swinging entrance doors to dwelling units. Although an interconnecting door between side-by-side units would not be the main entrance to a dwelling unit, it is still a possible entrance to the unit, and the requirements of Article 9.7.5.2 are applicable to this door.

2. Yes, except as noted below.

Sentence 9.7.5.2.(4) requires the applicable swing doors to have deadbolts, with characteristics as described in that Sentence. Deadbolts are typically installed to be secure from one side and removable from the other side. For this type of deadbolt, each side of the door requires a separate deadbolt to allow each unit to be secure from forced entry from the other unit. If it is possible for a deadbolt to be installed so that it is not removable by occupants from either side, a single deadbolt could be provided.



Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

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