

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

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DEFINITION OF "FAMILY"

SPACE STANDARDS:

The Uniform Housing Code, Section 503.2, adopted by the City and State of California allows a maximum of 70 square feet for the first two persons and 50 square feet for each additional person for each room used for sleeping purposes.

Section V.E.-103 (a) defines a family as: "One of more persons immediately related by blood, marriage or adoption, living in a single housekeeping unit in a dwelling together with their domestic employees. A group of not more than five unrelated persons living together with their domestic employees shall also be considered a family."

A written opinion from the City Attorney states that the California Supreme Court held that a similar zoning ordinance which prohibited more that five unrelated people from residing in the one family zone violates the right to privacy guaranteed by California constitution. The case (the Adamson decision) places in doubt the constitutional validity of all similar zoning ordinances which draw a distinction between related and non-related household members.

Due to Supreme Court precedent and the City Attorney opinion, the following can be enforced:

- 1. Observed that people using sleeping rooms exceed the limits set forth in section 503.2 Uniform Housing Code. (Example: 4 people, 170 square feet required). Rooms not used for sleeping purposes cannot be counted.
- 2. Proof of rentals beyond one or two roomers by the occupant in a zoned single family dwelling.