CHAPTER 9
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

SECTION 907.2.4
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907.2.4 Group F. A manual fire alarm system shall be installed in Group F occupancies that are two or more stories in height and have an occupant load of 500 or more above or below the lowest level of exit discharge.

Exception: Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system and the alarm notification appliances will activate upon sprinkler water flow.

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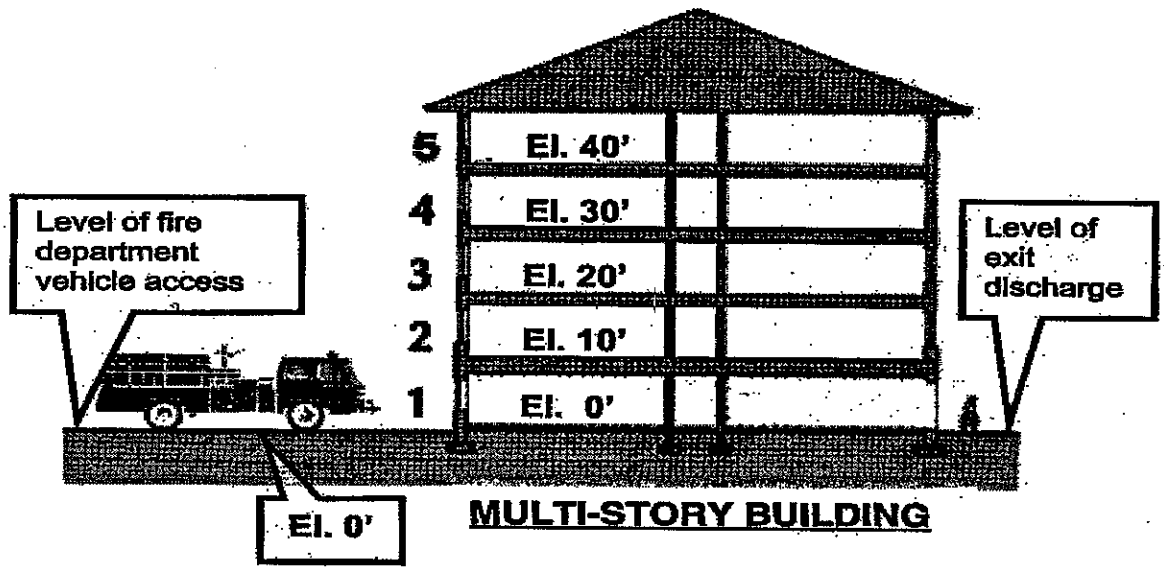
Q: Given a building on grade, without a basement, see Attachment No. 1 drawing of a Multi-Story Building. Is the second story of this building the first story above the lowest level of exit discharge?

A: No. When determining stories above the lowest level of exit discharge, a level, or floor level, is not a story. A "level" is the horizontal plane that is part of a story, not the entire story height. A "story" is the vertical space between the upper surface of one floor level and the upper surface of the floor level next above or below.

The level of exit discharge as shown in attached drawing of a Multi-Story Building is at elevation 0.0', the first floor level of the building is also at elevation 0.0' ; therefore, the level of exit discharge and the first floor level of the building are at the same elevation. The first story of the building begins at elevation 0.0' (first floor) and extends to elevation 10.0' (second floor). The first story of the building is the first story above the level of exit discharge.



Attachment No. 1