

**OREGON**  
**Interpretive Ruling No. 93-2**  
**LOCKS AND LATCHES ON**  
**EMERGENCY EGRESS WINDOWS FROM BEDROOMS**  
**(revised 11-15-00, editorial only)**

**Requested By:** PPPI Manual Review Committee

**REQUEST:** Replace PPPI 4042 and 4128 with an amended ruling addressing the questions listed below.

**APPLICABLE CODE SECTIONS:**

Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC), Section 310 and Oregon One and Two Family Dwelling Specialty Code (*Dwelling Code*), Section 310.

**BACKGROUND:**

Requests were made in 1976, 1978, 1980 and 1984 for clarification on:

- 1 May the designated bedroom emergency egress window have multiple locking devices?
- 2 May the locking devices be more than 56 inches above the floor?
- 3 Is the crank-type opener considered a lock when installed on emergency egress windows?
- 4 How do security devices relate to egress requirements?

These requests resulted in the two previous PPPI's, 4042 and 4128. These rulings have been withdrawn and replaced with this ruling.

**FINDINGS:**

- 1 Neither the *OSSC* nor the *Dwelling Code* have code language regulating the number of locking or latching devices on a bedroom egress window. Therefore, code officials ***cannot regulate*** a minimum or maximum number of locking or latching devices.
- 2 Neither the *OSSC* nor the *Dwelling Code* have code language regulating the height of locking or latching devices. Therefore, code officials ***cannot regulate*** the height of locking or latching devices.
- 3 Crank-type opening devices for bedroom windows are allowed; however, they must be permanently affixed to the opening device.
- 4 The *OSSC* has code language addressing security grills in Section 310.4. The *Dwelling Code* addresses this issue in Section 310.3.

**CONCLUSION:** Emergency egress windows may have multiple latches and crank openers which do not require the use of tools, special knowledge or effort to operate.

(signed May 19, 1993)  
John Talbott, Chairman Date  
Structural Code Advisory Board

The recommendations and findings of the Structural Code Advisory Board are accepted and the conclusion is adopted.

(signed May 24, 1993)  
Gary J. Wicks, Administrator Date  
Building Codes Division