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ADVISORY MEMO

TO: All Building Officials in Miami-Dade County

**FROM: Herminio F. Gonzalez, P.E., Director
Building Code Compliance Office**

DATE: March 31, 2003

SUBJECT: Shim Space for Windows and Doors

The installations of windows and doors are to be in compliance with the instructions contained in the Notices of Acceptance (NOAs) issued by this Office to the different manufacturers. It is understood that, as required by the NOA, a physical shim is to be placed in **shim space** at each anchor location to set frame plumb and level inside the opening. It also serves to avoid bending of frame members, and to reduce frame rotation or anchor bending under load.

Many of the NOAs establish a maximum allowable shim space of 1/4" between window or door frames and the buck. When the shim space is specified as "**gap**" or "**gap space**", etc. it shall be interpreted as **shim space** and will require a physical shim inside the space or gap.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Mr. Jaime Gascon of my staff at (305) 375-2901.

HFG:JG:

