

8-29 FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

SECTION:

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8-29-010: Scope:

(1) These rules and regulations shall apply to the installation, maintenance and testing of required fire alarm systems.

(2) These standards shall apply to newly installed fire alarm systems. Existing systems shall be considered exempt from these requirements provided the system was installed in accordance with the original new construction requirements; and in the opinion of the Fire Marshal, do not compromise minimum fire and life safety standards for the structure or occupants. Existing systems shall be inspected, maintained and tested at least annually in accordance with this chapter.

(3) Buildings undergoing major renovations or change of occupancy classification shall be required to bring existing systems into compliance with current minimum standards as may be required by the Fire Marshal.

8-29-015: Installation Permits:

(1) Construction plans and documents for fire alarm and detection systems shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of the International Fire and Building Codes, and this section.

(2) Construction plans and documents for fire alarm and detection systems shall be submitted for review, approval and a permit prior to installation meeting the minimum requirements of the International Fire Code, Section 907.1.2 "Fire alarm shop drawings."

(3) Construction plans shall be approved and stamped by a registered Fire Protection or Electrical Engineer prior to submittal to the Fire Department. Two (2) complete sets shall be submitted for review, and approval and a permit prior to installation.

8-29-020: System Design: Fire alarm systems shall be designed in accordance with the International Fire and Building Codes, and this section.

8-29-030: Installation Requirements:

(1) Automatic fire alarm systems shall not be altered, extended or installed without prior approval of the Fire Marshal.

(2) The requirements of this section shall apply in addition to any specific occupancy requirements in accordance with the International Fire Code.

(3) Automatic Fire Alarm Systems shall have a remote annunciator panel and zone map installed at a location approved by the Fire Marshal. Fire alarm control panel zones shall be pre-approved.

(4) Buildings with fire alarm systems shall also have approved emergency key boxes (KNOX brand) installed.

8-29-040: Monitoring:

(1) Fire alarm and detection systems (manual and automatic) shall be electronically supervised by an approved central monitoring station unless otherwise approved by the Fire Marshal.

(2) Renovation of the building requiring expansion or modification of the system shall require upgrading and electronic monitoring in accordance with this section.

8-29-050: Maintenance and Testing:

(1) Fire alarm systems shall be maintained operable at all times, and repaired or replaced when necessary.

(2) Fire alarm systems shall be inspected and tested at the frequencies as specified in the International Fire Code and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – 72 “National Fire Alarm Code” (latest editions) as applicable. A copy of the inspection and testing report shall be kept on the premises and made available upon request of inspection personnel, and one (1) copy shall be promptly forwarded to the Fire Marshal’s Office. (See Section 8-27-010 for electronic submittal requirements for confidence testing reports)