

## HAVE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS SERVICED AND TAGGED

Violation #12

### CODE SECTIONS

*International Fire code 2012 Edition*

**906.1 Where required.** Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in the following locations.

1. In new and existing Group A, B, E, F, H, I, M, R-1, R-2, R-4 and S occupancies.

**Exception:** In Group R-2 occupancies, portable fire extinguishers shall be required only in locations specified in Items 2 through 6 where each *dwelling unit* is provided with a portable fire extinguisher having a minimum rating of 1-A:10-B:C.

2. Within 30 feet (9144 mm) of commercial cooking equipment.
3. In areas where flammable or *combustible liquids* are stored, used or dispensed.
4. On each floor of structures under construction, except Group R-3 occupancies, in accordance with Section 3315.1.
5. Where required by the sections indicated in Table 906.1.
6. Special-hazard areas, including but not limited to laboratories, computer rooms and generator rooms, where required by the *fire code official*.

**906.2 General requirements.** Portable fire extinguishers shall be selected, installed and maintained in accordance with this section and NFPA 10.

### EXPLANATION

All fire extinguishers are required to be serviced by a state certified fire extinguisher technician annually and after each use, no matter how little amount of agent was discharged. A tag must be placed on the fire extinguisher by the technician and must remain on the unit for the fire inspector to see.

Many fire extinguishers today are considered disposable and cannot be serviced annually. These fire extinguishers must be disposed of and replaced every year.

### RATIONALE

Your fire extinguishers are designed to extinguish a fire at the incipient or beginning phase of a fire. The fire extinguisher's effectiveness may be diminished without proper inspection and servicing by a licensed technician. For instance, most fire extinguishers today utilize a chemical powder as its extinguishing agent. This powder will settle to the bottom of the unit and solidify there thus rendering the unit inoperable. An annual inspection and service will help to verify the operational readiness of the fire extinguisher.

Fire extinguishers are designed to be fully discharged with each use. Even if used improperly and only a small amount of the agent is discharged on a small fire, the unit still must be serviced as the amount of fire the unit can extinguish is now reduced.