

MAINTAIN, REPAIR, INSPECT, AND/OR TEST FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Violation #24

CODE SECTIONS

International Fire Code 2012 Edition

901.6 Inspection, testing and maintenance. Fire detection, alarm, and extinguishing systems, mechanical smoke exhaust systems, and smoke and heat vents shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times, and shall be replaced or repaired where defective. Nonrequired *fire protection systems* and equipment shall be inspected, tested and maintained or removed.

907.8.1 Maintenance required. Whenever required for compliance with the provisions of this code, devices, equipment, systems, conditions, arrangements, levels of protection or other features shall thereafter be continuously maintained in accordance with applicable NFPA requirements or as directed by the *fire code official*.

907.20.2 Testing. Testing shall be performed in accordance with the schedules in NFPA 72 or more frequently where required by the *fire code official*.

Exception: Devices or equipment that are inaccessible for safety considerations shall be tested during scheduled shutdowns where *approved by the fire code official*, but not less than every 18 months.

907.8.5 Maintenance, inspection and testing. The building *owner* shall be responsible to maintain the fire and life safety systems in an operable condition at all times. Service personnel shall meet the qualification requirements of NFPA 72 for maintaining, inspecting and testing such systems. A written record shall be maintained and shall be made available to the *fire code official*.

EXPLANATION

All fire alarm and fire detection systems shall be inspected, tested, and maintained per national codes, standards, and accepted practices. See N.F.P.A. Standard # 72 for testing intervals and procedures of fire alarm systems.

RATIONALE

Fire alarm systems are designed to notify the Fire District and/or to activate fire-extinguishing systems in your building at the earliest stages of a fire. This early notification can help to minimize damage caused by fires by extinguishing the fire as soon as possible. By requiring periodic inspection, testing and maintenance, we can help to ensure that the fire alarm system will function properly.