



VANCOUVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

CITY OF VANCOUVER

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To: Fire Alarm Monitoring Stations for Protected Premises in City of Vancouver, WA

Regarding: Fire Alarm Signal Verification

While the currently adopted International Fire Code formally references NFPA 72, 2013 edition, the City allows the use of the latest edition of referenced standards under specific conditions.

For the purposes of reducing false alarm responses in our community the Vancouver Fire Marshal is hereby requiring monitoring stations to utilize up to 90 seconds to attempt verification of automatic fire alarm signals in accordance with NFPA 72, 2016 edition section 26.2.2.

EXCEPTION: Water flow alarm signals shall be transmitted to 911 immediately.

NFPA 72, 2016 edition

26.2.2 * Alarm Signal Verification.

26.2.2.1 For applications other than those addressed under the scope of 29.7.9.2, supervising station personnel shall attempt to verify alarm signals prior to reporting them to the communication center (*In Vancouver this is the CRESA 911 dispatch center*) where all the following conditions exist:

- (1)*Alarm signal verification is required by the responsible fire department for a specific protected premise.
- (2) Documentation of the requirement for alarm signal verification is provided by the responsible fire department to the supervising station and the protected premises.
- (3) If the requirement for verification changes, the responsible fire department shall notify the supervising station and the protected premises.
- (4)*The verification process does not take longer than 90 seconds from the time the alarm signal is received at the supervising station until the time that retransmission of the verified alarm signal is initiated.
- (5) Verification of a true fire is received from anyone on premises or verification of an unwanted alarm signal is received only from a pre-assigned list of authorized personnel within the protected premises.
- (6)*Verified alarm signals are immediately retransmitted to the communications center and include information that the signal was verified at the protected premises to be an emergency.
- (7)*Alarm signals where verification is not conclusive are immediately retransmitted to the communications center.
- (8)*Alarm signals that are verified as unwanted alarms shall be reported to the responsible fire department in a manner and at a frequency specified by the responsible fire department.

Heidi Scarpelli, Vancouver Fire Marshal