

BUILDING REGULATIONS  
DIVISION

451 West Third Street  
P.O. Box 972  
Dayton, Ohio 45422-1070  
937-225-4622 - phone  
937-225-6327 - fax

[www.mcohio.org/build](http://www.mcohio.org/build)

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Dan Foley  
Judy Dodge  
Deborah A. Lieberman

## FIRE ALARM SYSTEM PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

DATE ISSUED: January 14, 2013  
BY: Maury Wyckoff, Chief Building Official  
EFFECTIVE: Immediately  
WORK EFFECTED: Fire Alarm Systems

### 1. PLAN REVIEW

- A. Location of visual notification devices (strobes) must comply with the Ohio Building Code, Section 907.5.2.3, which states that visible alarm notification appliances shall be provided in public use and common use areas. Common use areas are defined in OBC Chapter 11 as “Interior or exterior circulation paths, rooms, spaces or elements that are not for public use and are made available for the shared use of two or more people.” Public use areas are defined as “Interior or exterior rooms or spaces that are made available to the general public.”
- B. That means required accessible audible and visible alarms and notification appliances shall be audible and shall provide visible signals in restrooms, in other general and common use areas, and in hallways and lobbies. Common use areas also include meeting and conference rooms, classrooms, cafeterias, filing and photocopy rooms, employee break rooms, dressing, examination, and treatment rooms, and similar spaces that are not used solely as employee work areas.
- C. Drawings must be accurate and complete regarding room uses, the placement of devices, and any potential obstructions. Failure to do so can hold up inspection approvals. Plan changes must be submitted to our office for review.

### 2. INSPECTION

#### A. Rough Fire Alarm System Inspection

1. A Fire Alarm Rough Inspection is required to verify device locations and wiring methods, showing conformance with approved drawings, the National Electric Code (NEC), and National Fire Alarm Code (NFPA 72). **Approved Fire Alarm Permit drawings must be on the job at the time of inspection.**
2. All boxes, conduit, and wiring must be installed. Cut-in boxes may be used as long as they are properly installed. Above ceiling wiring must be of an acceptable type and be properly supported. This inspection may be done before or after the walls have been drywalled, but must be done before any ceiling membrane (drywall, acoustical tile, etc.) is installed.
3. Electrical boxes and conduit for the alarm system installed by the electrical contractor prior to the alarm system permit being issued may be inspected during the general electrical inspection, but only for compliance with the NEC, and such inspection is not a substitute for a fire alarm rough inspection. No fire alarm system wiring, equipment, or devices may be installed before the Fire Alarm Permit is issued.

#### B. Final Alarm System Inspection

1. At the completion of all alarm system work, a final inspection by the Fire Department must be conducted to verify the operation of the system. **They are to be given the NFPA 72 installation certification form. Approved Fire Alarm Permit drawings must be on the job at the time of inspection.**
2. Lastly, we need to inspect the work to verify proper location and placement of all devices, and absence of any obstructions. **Approved Fire Alarm Permit drawings must be on the job at the time of inspection.**