



# CITY OF ABILENE FIRE DEPARTMENT



FIRE PREVENTION 250 GRAPE ST ABILENE, TX 79601 (325) 676-6434

## FIRE ALARM SUBMITTAL GUIDELINE

The following comments are provided to assist the proponent. Additional requirements may apply.

### **New Installation/Modification Plan Submittals**

- Allow at least 10 business days to process all submittals and required permits.
- Fire alarm systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Abilene Fire Code, National Electrical Code, NFPA and State of Texas rules and regulations.
- Plans shall be stamped by a State of Texas licensed Fire Alarm Planning Superintendent (FAPS) or a State of Texas licensed Professional Engineer. At least one set submitted for review shall bear an original stamp.
- Submit at least 3 sets of scaled drawings, a voltage drop calculation worksheet with battery calculations and a completed Abilene Fire Department permit application for review.
- All submittals shall be reviewed and a fire permit issued prior to start of any work on the fire alarm system, including devices, boxes, conduit and wiring.
- Fire permit and Fire Department stamped drawings shall be at job site during all work related to the permitted fire alarm system.
- Only fire protection contractors licensed for such work by the State of Texas shall perform fire alarm system work.
- Submittals will not be accepted by parties that have credit suspensions with the City of Abilene Finance Department.

### **Modifications Not Requiring a Permit**

- Work involving required maintenance, repairing or restoring of the fire alarm system and associated equipment.
- Replacing components with “like” components that do not change the system’s original design, specifications and/or performance.
- Modifications do not require acceptance testing.

### **Acceptance Testing**

- Contact Fire Prevention at least 24 hours in advance to witness tests and inspect installation.
- Inspection times are normally Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 11:00am and 1:30pm to 3:00pm.
- The Abilene Fire Department does not schedule after hours inspections.
- Acceptance testing will require testing of all visible/audio devices, all system activation devices monitoring any suppression systems, all manual activation devices and verification of all transmission signals.
- The Abilene Fire Department does not inspect fire alarm systems to ensure they are compliant with ADA standards, or other regulatory agencies.

## **Fire Alarm System Off Site Monitoring and Transmission Channel Requirements**

- Provide monitoring by an approved supervising station.
- Dedicated Telephone Line - Effective September 2013, Abilene Fire Department shall no longer require the telephone line (number) connected to the public switched network used as the primary transmission channel from a DACT to the supervising station to be dedicated solely for this purpose. Requirements found in NFPA 72 indicate a nonessential telephone line at the protected premises is acceptable for this purpose. The primary transmission channel should be assigned to a nonessential number to avoid unnecessary interruption of normal communications. A second telephone line or other approved transmission means shall be provided at the protected premises as a second DACT transmission channel.
- Approved Transmission Means - Communication equipment other than a telephone line connected to the public switched network that is proposed for use as a second DACT transmission channel shall be listed and approved for this purpose in accordance with NFPA 72. This includes Internet telephone, cellular telephone, TV cable, two way radios and all other equipment intended for use as a DACT transmission channel.
- Transmission Means Secondary Power - All communications equipment located at the protected premises that is necessary for the operation of a DACT transmission channel shall have a secondary power capacity of 24 hours.

## **Fire Alarm Control Panel/Annunciator Panel**

- Fire Alarm Control Panel or Annunciator Panel shall be located at the main entrance. Location shall be approved by the Fire Marshal or designee.
- Smoke detection shall be provided at the FACP.
- The main power shall be from a dedicated circuit.
- Systems consisting of 25 or more devices shall be addressable.

## **Audio and Visible Devices**

- Fire alarm system indicating signals shall be audible throughout the building at sound levels 15 dB above the prevailing sound levels and 5 dB above peak levels.
- Fire alarm system indicating signals shall be visible in all accessible public- and common-use areas.
- In areas where they may not be visible when mounted on the wall, fire alarm system visible indicating signals shall be located on the ceiling.

## **Fire Sprinkler System/Extinguishing System Monitoring**

- Activation of a fire extinguishing system or sprinkler system shall initiate activation of the fire alarm system.
- Water flow signal shall be a fire alarm system audible and visible signaling device located above fire department connection. Location shall be approved by the Fire Marshal.
- Tamper switches shall transmit a supervisory signal.
- A manual pull station shall be provided at sprinkler riser if pull stations are not required at the exits.

## **Hotel/Motel Residential Occupancies**

- R-1 Occupancy. In non-sprinklered buildings, single-station smoke alarms shall be connected to the emergency electrical system and annunciated by guestroom at a constantly attended location from which the fire alarm system is capable of being manually activated.
- R-1 Occupancy. System type smoke detectors installed as an alternative to prescribed single-station smoke alarms shall sound an audible signal throughout the affected guestroom unit and in non-sprinklered buildings, shall provide a supervisory signal at a constantly attended location from which the fire alarm system is capable of being manually activated.
- R-1 Occupancy. 1 or more guestroom units may be equipped for hearing impaired

occupants. Single-station smoke alarms or system-type smoke detection shall be installed in all guestroom units for the hearing impaired to activate audible/visible signaling throughout the affected unit. Visual signaling activated by the fire alarm system shall be provided in all guestroom units for the hearing impaired.

- R-1 and R-2 Occupancy. Single-station smoke alarms, not connected to the fire alarm system, shall be provided in each sleeping room or area and in adjacent rooms that serve as egress routes from sleeping rooms/areas. Smoke alarms shall be interconnected within dwelling units/guestroom units.
- R-2 Occupancy with a fire alarm system shall have all dwelling units provided with the capability to support visible alarm notification appliances in accordance with ICC/ANSI A117.1.
- R-2 Occupancy with a fire alarm system shall have all dwelling units provided with the capability to support visible alarm notification appliances in accordance with ICC/ANSI A117.1.
- R-2 Occupancy System type smoke detectors installed as an alternative to prescribed single-station smoke alarms shall sound an audible signal throughout the affected dwelling unit and provide a supervisory signal at the FACP.

### **Elevator Recall**

- System-type smoke detectors or other automatic fire detection as permitted by 6.15.3.7 located in elevator lobbies, elevator hoistways, and elevator machine rooms including machine space, control room, and control space used to initiate fire fighters' service recall shall be connected to the building fire alarm system. NFPA 72 6.15.3.1
- In facilities without a building fire alarm system, these smoke detectors or other automatic fire detection as permitted by 6.15.3.7 shall be connected to a dedicated fire alarm system control unit that shall be designated as "elevator recall control and supervisory panel," permanently identified on the control unit and on the record drawings. NFPA 72 6.15.3.2
- Signals shall be transmitted by FACP to elevator controller.
- FACP installed to operate elevator recall only, are not required to be monitored if the elevator does not travel more than 3 floors.

### **Special Considerations**

- Duct smoke detectors will receive a mechanical inspection by Building Inspections at (325) 676-6232.
- Duct smoke detectors shall provide a supervisory signal.
- Protective covers for manual fire alarm boxes (pull stations) shall not emit a local alarm signal.
- Fire pumps shall be monitored at the Fire-Alarm or Central Station Monitor Panel for "Pump Running", "Phase Reversal", and "Power Available" status.



# CITY OF ABILENE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



## FIRE ALARM PERMIT SUBMITTAL

250 Grape St. Abilene, TX 79601 (325) 676-6434 Fax: (325) 676-6673 afdprev@abilenetx.gov

Complete and return to the Abilene Fire Marshal's Office at least ten (10) working days prior to project start date. All submittals must include 3 sets of drawings, 1 copy of voltage drop calculations, 1 copy of battery calculations and manufacturer's equipment specifications.

Fire alarm company:

Mailing / Billing address:

City: State: Zip:

APS Name: License #:

Phone: Email:

I understand the Abilene Fire Marshal's Office does not review plans for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Plans are reviewed for compliance with the Abilene Fire Code (International Fire Code), NFPA and local policies. I understand all statements made herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand and agree to notify the City of Abilene Fire Marshal's Office of any changes in the written information in this application within five (5) working days from the date such change occurs. I have read and understand the Fire Alarm Submittal Guidelines. Furthermore, I agree to pay all permit fees associated with this application.

Signature: Date:

Business name where alarm is to be installed:

Address:

Residential:  Commercial:  New Installation:  Modification:  Square footage:

See [abilenetx.gov/fees](http://abilenetx.gov/fees) for permit fee. Enclosed:  Invoice:

### DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Date Received: Submittal Approval: Yes No

Plans Examiner: Date Permit Issued :