



JACKSON BUREAU OF FIRE SAFETY

FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 & 3

200 KIERYCH MEMORIAL DRIVE
JACKSON N.J. 08527



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Message from the Fire Official for Impaired Fire Protection Systems

Fire alarm and sprinkler systems are required by rule to be installed, operated, and maintained properly. These requirements are established in the NJ Uniform Fire Code and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The following is a summary of those requirements and notification procedures for persons with the occupancy responsibility such as Security, Maintenance, Nursing Supervisors, Fire Wardens, Receptionist, Facility Managers, Directors Owners/Managers or related positions of authority.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Impairment Coordinator" Any building or premises that have a required fire protection system must have an Impairment Coordinator familiar with the fire protection systems, emergency evacuation and fire safety plan. (ex: Security, Maintenance, Director, Head Nurse, Supervisor etc.) The building owner shall assign an Impairment Coordinator or in the absence, the owner shall be considered the Impairment Coordinator". This person is responsible for the repair notifications of the fire protection system. Nothing should happen to any fire protection system that the Impairment Coordinator is not aware of.
2. "Impairment" is defined as a condition where a fire protection system or unit or portion thereof is out of service, and the condition can result in the fire protection system or unit not functioning in a fire event. "Emergency impairment" is defined as a condition where a water based fire protection system or portion thereof is out of service due to an unexpected occurrence, such as rupture pipe, an operated sprinkler, or interruption of water supply. "Preplanned impairment" is defined as a condition where a water based fire protection system or portion thereof is out of service due to work that has been planned in advance, such as revisions to the water supply or sprinkler system piping
3. "Fire watch" is a temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building or portion thereof by one or more qualified individuals for the purpose of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fires, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department during times when any fire protection system (i.e. fire alarm system, fire sprinkler system, etc.) is out of service or "off-line".

PROCEDURE

1. Security officers making regular security rounds or Impairment Coordinators shall observe the fire alarm panel being in normal mode.
2. If the fire alarm panel is found in fire alarm mode **NOTIFY 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY.**
3. If the fire alarm panel shows trouble or is in impairment, contact the appropriate repair agency immediately to diligently peruse the restoration of the fire protection system.
4. Impairment Coordinator shall be informed of any impairment to the fire protection system. In 24 hour shift operations the Impairment Coordinator shall inform the next shift Impairment Coordinator of any trouble or impairment of the fire protection system.
5. Where a required fire protection system is in impairment, notification shall also be made to **Ocean County Radio Communications at (732) 349-9100** informing them the fire protection system is out of service and contact them when it is placed back into service.
6. Notification shall also be made to the **Fire Official** at **(732) 928-1666x14** or by e-mail jbfs3@optonline.net.

7. A required tag shall be used to indicate that a system is impaired or out of service. Tags shall be posted at each fire department connection (FDC), system control valve, fire alarm panel, annunciator and or command center.
8. A fire watch shall be initiated for all occupants left unprotected by the shut down until the fire protection system has been returned to service. The Fire Official shall determine if a firewatch is sufficient or building evacuation is required.
9. Fire watch personnel shall perform constant patrols of the protected premises and be capable of detecting fire, have means for notification of the fire department by transmitting alarm to emergency phone number 9-1-1 and instituting evacuation.
10. The Impairment Coordinator shall keep proper log of the incident, noting times, alarm mode, location, contact notifications and any relevant information related to the fire protection equipment for review by the Fire Official.
11. In case of fire or emergency fire watch personnel shall initiate procedures outlined in the fire watch guideline. The Impairment Coordinator shall immediately meet the Fire Department Officer in Charge upon arrival to give a status report of the situation.

Remember

**EMERGENCY
9-1-1**