



Fire Prevention Division

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SUPPLEMENTAL RULES & REGULATIONS

Number:	08-907.10.2		
Subject:	Audible Fire Alarms in R-2 Occupancies		
Code:	2003 International Fire Code	Code Section:	907.10.2
Effective Date:	June 4, 2008	Issued by:	Fire Marshal Roger Parker 
Revision Date:	NA	Issued by:	NA
Supersedes:	NA	Date:	NA

AUTHORITY:

§104.1 of the 2003 International Fire Code authorizes the fire marshal to render interpretations of the fire code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the application of its provisions.

PURPOSE:

To establish rules and regulations regarding requirements for audible fire alarms in R-2 occupancies, particularly apartment buildings. Due to the high incidence of fires in apartment buildings it is imperative that building occupants be notified when there is a fire in the building to allow adequate time for a safe and orderly evacuation.

SCOPE:

This regulation covers all facilities, buildings, or uses within the City of Avondale after the effective date.

GENERAL:

The 2003 International Fire Code §907.10.2 states:

907.10.2 Audible alarms. Audible alarm notification appliances shall be provided and sound a distinctive sound that is not to be used for any purpose other than that of a fire alarm. The audible alarm notification appliances shall provide a sound pressure level of 15 decibels (dBA) above the average ambient sound level or 5 dBA above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds, whichever is greater, in every occupied space within the building. The minimum sound pressure levels shall be: 70 dBA in occupancies in Groups R and I-1; 90 dBA in mechanical equipment rooms; and 60 dBA in other occupancies. The maximum sound pressure level for audible alarm notification appliances shall be 120 dBA at the minimum hearing distance from the audible appliance. Where the average ambient noise is greater than 105 dBA, visible alarm notification appliances shall be provided in accordance with NFPA 72 and audible alarm notification appliances shall not be required.

SUPPLEMENTAL RULE OR REGULATION:

The City of Avondale Fire Code requires fire sprinkler systems and fire alarm systems in all new R-2 occupancies including apartment buildings. The building fire alarm system (with the fire sprinkler water flow connected to it) shall provide audible alarm notification in every occupied space within the building including each dwelling unit and sleeping unit.