



## Midland Fire Marshal's Office

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**Subject:** Visual and Audible Notification Requirements

**Effective:** September 1st, 2017

**Code Reference:** 2015 IFC Section 907.5

**Scope:** Inform owners, general contractors, and fire alarm contractors of the audible and visual notification requirements of the fire code of the City of Midland, Texas.

**Description of Problem:** Business owners and contractors are unaware of the visual and audible notification requirements outlined in the fire code and our intention to enforce these provisions.

**Notice:** All buildings or structures provided with fire alarm systems shall be provided with audible and visual notification in accordance with the provisions of IFC 907.5.2 and NFPA 72, 2016 Edition. Chapter 9 of the 2015 IFC provides the requirements for a fire alarm system. Section 907.5 outlines the requirements for audible and visual notification appliances.

**Visible Alarms.** Visible alarm notification appliances shall be provided in accordance with 907.5.2.3.1 through 907.5.2.3.3. These sections require visual alarm notification in Public and Common Areas, Employee Work Areas, Groups I1 and R-1, and in Group R-2.

**Audible Alarms.** Audible alarm notification appliances shall emit a distinctive sound that is not to be used for any purpose other than that of a fire alarm.

Therefore, new construction of single-occupant and multi-tenant buildings will be required to provide a fire alarm system capable of delivering sufficient power for A/V devices in each tenant space, public areas, and common areas. Renovations to existing buildings shall include the addition of occupant notification devices where the building and/or space is provided with an existing automatic sprinkler system and fire alarm system. It is not the intent of the fire code or this information notice to require occupant notification in a building without a fire alarm and/or fire sprinkler system, unless otherwise required by another section of the fire code.

Fire Marshal Rocky Guzman