



November 7, 2012

To all rental property operators:

Pursuant to the State of Texas House Bill No. 1168 passed on September 1, 2011. The City of Midland Fire Marshal's office will enforce the following requirements:

1. All landlords will have until July 1, 2013 to comply with these requirements.
2. In existing residential rental occupancies;
 - a. Single or multiple-station smoke detectors shall be installed and maintained in the following areas;
 - i. On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
 - ii. In each room used for sleeping purposes.

Exception: *Not required where smoke detectors are provided in the sleeping as part of an automatic smoked detection system.*
 - iii. In each story of a dwelling unit, including basements but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. In dwellings or dwelling units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke detector is installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than on full story below the upper level.
3. All newly required smoke detectors shall be interconnected according to the International Fire Code 2009 ed. *Section 907.2.11.3 Interconnection.*
4. Where existing smoke detectors receive their primary power from the building's wiring where such wiring is received from a commercial power source, newly required smoke detectors shall be powered by the buildings wiring with battery backup.
5. Where existing smoke detectors are powered by battery only, newly required smoke detectors shall be allowed to be powered by battery only.

These requirements follow the International Fire Code 2009 edition as would be for new construction and House Bill No. 1168 Section 92.252 (4)(b) (3) (4).

Respectfully,

Jeff Meiner
Fire Marshal

