



COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

GREG DUPUIS, FIRE CHIEF

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| CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD | | |
| STANDARD TITLE: | 407.014 EXTERIOR AUDIBLE AND VISUAL NOTIFICATION APPLIANCES | |
| STANDARD NUMBER: 407.014 | EFFECTIVE DATE: October 26, 2022 | REVISION DATE: October 26, 2022 |

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Coalinga Fire Department's (CFD or Department) requirements related to the installation of exterior, audible and visual notification appliances where a building fire alarm is installed.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all building fire alarm systems within the City of Coalinga (City). These requirements apply to both required and voluntary systems.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the Department's service delivery area, and after careful deliberation, the Department has determined the following:

1. Where a building fire alarm is installed and there are exterior, public and common use areas where the occupants are provided with seating, audible and visible notification appliances must be extended to each exterior public or common use area.

Exception:

Existing, previously approved building fire alarm systems (prior to 2021) do not require exterior audible and visible alarm notification appliances to be retroactively installed, except where the fire alarm system is upgraded or replaced, or a new fire alarm system is installed.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

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PROCESS

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INFORMATION

As noted in the California Fire Code (CFC), the fire code official has the authority to formulate policies they deem necessary based upon local conditions related to fire alarm installations.



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In the current edition of the CFC, public and common use areas are required to have audible and visible notification appliances when a building fire alarm system is installed. Public and common use areas include exterior locations, such as: decks, rooftops, patios, sidewalks and other similar areas. These areas may also be used for dining and similar activities subject to the City's outdoor dining ordinance.

Exterior areas like the ones noted above may not possess traditional exit components and the occupants located within them may be situated in such a way as to impair the egress of other occupants from within the building. These exterior locations may also be constructed of materials that are not of sufficient method, work, quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, or safety, etc. and traditional fire extinguishing systems may not be extended to these locations.

Finally, code commentary is clear that the intent of the public and common use requirements is to replicate the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act- Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities.

DEFINITIONS

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CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code

Current edition

Americans with Disabilities Act

Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities