



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
FIRE ENGINEERING AND INVESTIGATIONS**

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Date: February 5th, 2024

To: Fire Alarm Advisory Committee

From: Michael Huang, Building Materials Listing Program Coordinator

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:
Phone Line Emulator Informational Bulletin

Recommended Actions:
For final recommendation to post

Background Information:

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has drafted proposed language for an information bulletin regarding Managed Facilities-Based Voice Network (MFVN) devices based on a previous draft from Wayne Moore and Sagiv Weiss-Ishai. MFVN is defined in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, 2022 Edition, Section 3.3.168.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

There are new MFVN devices in the market that may emulate the same service provided by plain old telephone service (POTS) lines using internet, cellular, ethernet, etc. There are some concerns about newer technologies being as reliable as a traditional POTS line. Local authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) will need to determine if these new MFVN devices meet the necessary reliability, fire, and life safety standards.

Potential Industry Impacts:

Laying out the requirements for newer technology MFVN devices will help AHJs, inspectors, contractors, etc., when approving or designing fire alarm systems.

Attachments:

Draft Phone Line Emulator Bulletin (Attachment #2)