



CAL FIRE - OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Code Interpretation 25-12

Issued: December 26, 2025

Power Supplies for Smoke Alarms with Integral Strobes

OVERVIEW

Edition: 2022 Title 24 California Building Standards (July 1 Supplement)
Code: Part 9, California Fire Code (CFC)
Section(s): CFC Section 907.2.11.6
Requested By: Steve Kuchenski, Architect, ONYX Architects
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QUESTION

Is it the intent of 2022 CFC, Section 907.2.11.6 that smoke alarms with integral strobes be either: (a) powered by the integral battery backup in event of primary power failure or (b) connected to an emergency electrical system?

ANSWER

The answer is (b). It is the intent of 2022 CFC, Section 907.2.11.6, for smoke alarms with integral strobes where the battery-back up is incapable of powering the strobe portion, in new construction, and in newly classified Group R-3.1 occupancies, that the strobe portion shall be powered by an emergency electrical system. Due to battery capacity limitations and the power draw required to operate strobes, the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Building Materials Listing Program is not aware of any listed smoke alarms with integral strobes where the strobe portion draws power from the battery.