



CAL FIRE - OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Code Interpretation 25-01

Issued: March 24, 2025

Dedicated Function Fire Alarm Systems

OVERVIEW

Edition: 2022 Title 24, California Building Standards (July 2024 Supplement)
2022 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72

Code: Part 9-California Fire Code (CFC)
NFPA 72-National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code

Section(s): CFC - Chapter 2, 903.4, 904.3.5, 907.2, 907.3.1
NFPA 72 - 3.3.115.2.1, 3.3.118.4

Requested By: John Bennett, CEO, and Bennett Fire and Security Incorporated

Date Received: June 28, 2023

QUESTION #1

Are Dedicated Fire Alarm Systems and Building Fire Alarm Systems different types of Fire Alarm Systems?

ANSWER #1

Yes. Per NFPA 72 section 3.3.118.4.1 and 3.3.118.2.

QUESTION #2

Do Dedicated Function Fire Alarm Systems, Building Fire Alarm Systems, and Fire Alarm Systems, each have their own definition?

ANSWER #2

Yes. NFPA 72 provides the definition by reference since it is not addressed in the 2022 California Fire Code.

QUESTION #3

Are Fire Alarm Control Units used for Supervisory Service and Fire Sprinkler Monitoring considered Building Fire Alarm Systems which require a Manual Fire Alarm Box?

ANSWER #3

No. Per CFC 907.2 in the exceptions, "the manual fire alarm box is not required for fire alarm control units systems dedicated to elevator recall control, supervisory service and fire sprinkler. Additionally, "the manual fire alarm box is not required to be installed when approved by the fire code official."

QUESTION #4



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Are alternate Automatic Fire-Extinguishing Systems (Ansul Systems) under CFC 904.3.4 and CFC 904.3.5 required to be connected to Dedicated Sprinkler Monitoring Systems?

ANSWER #4

No. A Dedicated Function Fire Alarm System is not a building fire alarm system. Per CFC 904.2.2 and 904.3.5 monitoring is required when a building fire alarm system is present.

QUESTION #5

Are Duct Smoke Detectors required to be connected to the Dedicated Function Fire Alarm System per CFC 907.3.1?

ANSWER #5

No. A Dedicated Function Fire Alarm System is not a building fire alarm system. Per CMC 609.1.1, where fire-detection or alarm systems are provided, duct smoke detectors are required to be monitored.

QUESTION #6

Are jurisdictions required to have their local ordinances or municipal codes amended to impose additional requirements to the State Fire Code?

ANSWER #6

Yes. CFC, Section 1.1.8 applies to; City, County, or City and Counties, amendments, additions, or deletions. Additionally, CFC Section 1.1.8.1 requires; cities, counties, cities and counties, and fire departments to file amendments, additions, or deletions and the findings, with the California Building Standards Commission.