



**North Collier Fire Control and Rescue District  
Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Guidelines for Successful Review or Inspection**

<b>Article Number</b>	FAL 16-02
<b>Effective Date</b>	August 8, 2016
<b>Subject</b>	Emergency Replacement of Non-Functioning Fire Alarm Components Resulting from a Lightning Strike or Some Other Adverse Condition
<b>Objective</b>	To Establish Procedures Designed to Expedite the Reporting, Repair and Permitting of Corrective Work for Non-Functioning Fire Alarm System Components

**BACKGROUND**

There is concern amongst the members of the fire alarm industry that the process involved with the permitting of repairs to a non-functioning fire alarm system – due to lightning or another emergency condition – would impede their respective abilities to implement prompt corrective action in returning the fire alarm system to a fully functional state.

**POLICY/PROCEDURE**

When a fire alarm system is damaged and considered non-functional due to a lightning strike or some other emergency condition that renders the system inoperable, the fire alarm contractor shall take the following actions:

- The fire alarm contractor shall immediately notify the AHJ via email to [lifesafetyadmin@northcollierfire.com](mailto:lifesafetyadmin@northcollierfire.com) or notification through Mobile-Eyes contractor portal as to the address, cause of the interruption, extent of the damage and the corrective action necessary.
- The fire alarm contractor shall seek guidance from and coordinate with the local AHJ regarding the corrective measures necessary to return the fire alarm to a fully functional state or the actions necessary to provide appropriate safeguards until the fire alarm system is, once again, functional.
- If guidance from the local AHJ is not immediately available (e.g. due to the discovery of the non-functioning fire alarm system after regular business hours, on the weekend, or on a holiday), then the fire alarm contractor shall take the necessary corrective measures to render the fire alarm system “temporarily” operable until such time guidance from the local AHJ can be obtained.

- The fire alarm contractor shall make notification to the AHJ via email to [lifesafetyadmin@northcollierfire.com](mailto:lifesafetyadmin@northcollierfire.com) or notification through Mobile-Eyes contractor portal within five business days from the date the non-functioning system is discovered. The written notification shall describe the cause of the interruption, the extent of the damage and the corrective action needed.
- The length of time allotted for the fire alarm contractor to file the required fire alarm permit for the repair work is five (5) working days. After the fire alarm contractor submits the permit, they shall convey to the AHJ the permit number. The permit will then be processed and reviewed on an “ASAP” basis. The fire alarm contractor shall include a “revised” Fire Alarm System Record of Completion which shall show how the original Fire Alarm System Record of Completion has been modified and shall include the revision date pursuant to NFPA 72.
- There are no changes to the fire alarm plan review and fire alarm inspection fees for these emergency panel replacement permits. Applicable fees are based on the fee schedule that is currently in place, as adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

#### **APPLICABILITY**

This policy shall be limited to non-functioning fire alarm system component(s) - damaged either by lightning or other natural phenomena or domestic acts of violence – that jeopardize the life safety of the building occupants. Such non-functioning fire alarm system components shall include, but not be limited to:

- A damaged FACP that can no longer receive inputs or no longer control outputs;
- A fire alarm system that can no longer transmit signals to an offsite monitoring company;
- A damaged IDC or SLC, whereby the circuit can no longer interrogate devices or report abnormal conditions effectively; and
- A damaged NAC, whereby the circuit can no longer warn occupants of an alarm condition and to evacuate the premises.

#### **CODE REFERENCES**

NFPA 72, NFPA 101