“No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the legislature is in session.”

Judge Gideon J. Tucker
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Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, Inc., (TBFAA) is a non-profit organization of security professionals who have joined together to enrich the industry by providing membership training and representing the membership as a whole in the Texas Legislature, the Texas Private Security Bureau and the Texas Fire Marshal’s Office among many other programs.

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Message from the President

Chris Russell

A government is like fire, a handy servant, but a dangerous master.
– George Washington

It doesn’t matter how many centuries you look back, cynical attitudes are easily born from the simple utterance of the word government. Therefore it should be of no surprise to anyone at the number of malicious jokes created about politicians, lawyers, and lobbyists. Clearly there are not many individuals or groups that can escape the harsh attitudes found on the opposite side of any law or bill.

To the contrary of the malicious jokes; the threats to the citizens of Texas and to our industry are rarely spawned by the politicians, the lawyers, or the professional lobbyists. The biggest threat comes from the process of government in creating and changing laws. For this very simplistic reason it is imperative for the TBFAA to be active in the process to educate and inform - to monitor and become active in any legislation that enters our realm of expertise.

Often times our industry or Association is the target of spiteful rhetoric. The often inflamed and derogatory attacks against our industry come from those on the opposite side of a bill or law. The disparaging venom on our industry is always a direct result of the opposing side’s inability to counter our position – the position of doing what is right for the citizens of Texas.

As an industry we should strive to adapt and excel in accordance with our existing laws, rules and regulations. Adamantly continue in our effort to search for ways to better serve the Texas consumer. Actively work to improve training and education, help other associations, and assist the brave men and women of law enforcement and life safety.

Statewide view Calendar

JANUARY

01  New Years Day
08  HGCAA Membership Meeting- Houston
08-11 CES- Show- Las Vegas
13  STAA Membership Meeting- San Antonio
15  NTAA Membership Meeting- Dallas
19  Martin Luther King Day
21  NTAA CEU Training- Dallas
22  Central Texas Chapter Meeting- Austin
22-23 Level 1- El Paso
30  Fire Prep Class- Dallas

FEBRUARY

10  STAA Membership Meeting- San Antonio
12  HGCAA Membership Meeting- Houston
12-13 Level 1- Dallas
16  President’s Day
18  NTAA CEU Training- Dallas
19  NTAA Membership Meeting- Dallas
26  TXBFAA Board Meeting- Dallas
26  Central Texas Chapter Meeting- Austin
27  Fire Prep Class- San Antonio-Tri-Ed
**Houston Gulf Coast Association**  
Phone: **281.859.4569**  
Meets 2nd Thursday of the month 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at Cadillac Bar and Grill, Shepard @ I-10  
POC: Debi Ulmer  p: 281.859.4569  e: debi@dispatchcenter.net

**North Texas Alarm Association**  
Phone: **214.352.9352**  
3rd Thursday of each month. Check website for locations and times  
POC: David Simon  p: 972.871.3778  e: dave.simon@brinks.com

**South Texas Alarm Association**  
Phone: **210.402.6262**  
Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month. Check website for locations and times  
POC: Bill Parsley  p: 866-491-3400  e: bparsley@dispatchcenter.net

**Central Texas Chapter**  
Phone: **877.908.2322**  
Meets the 4th Thursday of the month except Oct & Dec at 11:30 am Springhill Restaurant, 1119 FM 1825, Pflugerville, TX 78660.  
POC: Jeff Bright  p: 512.845.1460  e: jbright@brightsecuritygroup.com

**Northeast Texas Chapter**  
Phone: **877.908.2322**  
Meets quarterly in Longview Area. Plus local meetings will be held in various cities. Check website for times and locations.  
POC: Patrick Craven  p: 903.792.7262  e: pacraven@cableone.net

**National Electronic Security Alliance**  
Phone: **301.519.9237**  
NESA is a federation of state associations, including TBFAA, established to serve and promote the electronic systems industry at the direction of, and through its affiliated state associations.  
POC: Rex Adams  p: 972.437.1213  e: radams@asdsecurity.com

**False Alarm Reduction Association**  
Phone: **301.519.9237**  
FARA is an association of persons working in public safety False Alarm Reduction Units that exchanges information, influences legislation and establishes relationships and partnerships with other groups interested in false alarm reduction. TBFAA is an associate member of FARA.  
POC: Brad Shipp  p: 301.519.9237  e: info@faraonline.org
TRI-ED Releases Its 2009 Product Catalog
Tri-Ed’s new 2009 Catalog of Products is now available and features more product selections from more vendor partners than ever before. To request a catalog by phone, please call 888-874-3336.

HAI has released its 2009 Product Catalog.
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Bosch Upgrades Allegiant Video Control System for Superior Performance and Reliability -
Bosch Security Systems, Inc. announced the upgrade of its LTC 8900 Series Allegiant Video Switcher/Control System with the introduction of a new PC platform that delivers higher security, greater processing power and enhanced reliability. For more information on the enhanced LTC 8900 Series Allegiant, visit www.boschsecurity.us.

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Burleson to issue immediate citations to energy companies over ... 1.6.09 - Fort Worth Star Telegram - Burleson — Council members unanimously approved several changes in the city’s gas-drilling ordinance, in part because of ongoing security concerns. Gas well inspector Collin Gregory reported finding open gates at well sites after the council adopted tighter security measures last year, including requiring that all gates be locked and monitored by an alarm system. Companies previously had a three-day grace period to correct the problem, but now they will be cited immediately. Fines range up to $2,000 per violation per day.

Save a stamp, save a trip: Houston permit system to go on-line - 1.7.09 - Texas Cable News, Houston -- This may be the last year that you’ll need to write a check, find a stamp, and lick an envelope to pay your annual burglar alarm renewal fee to the City of Houston. The City has partnered with Chase Bank to develop an on-line program that will accept credit cards for common city permits, such as burglar, panic and fire alarm renewals.

City considers mandatory cameras at convenience stores- 1.7.08 - Monitor, McAllen - Police Chief Victor Rodriguez is asking city leaders to consider an ordinance that would require all convenience stores in town to install video surveillance systems and keep alcoholic beverages under lock and key at night. Other cities in Texas passed similar ordinances last year. In March, Houston’s City Council approved an ordinance that requires each of the city’s convenience stores to register with the Police Department, maintain a silent alarm system, use a safe and have two high-resolution surveillance cameras on site. Dallas approved a similar measure in August.

Little Elm Town Council Seeks Proposals- 1.8.09 - McKinney Courier Gazette, Little Elm - The council approved a request from the police department to proceed with seeking requests for proposal from companies who implement alarm programs. The council saw a presentation from George Robertson of PM/AM False Alarm Management Solutions. The company provides cost recovery of false alarm calls. Responding to false alarms uses up officer and administrative resources. The alarm program would manage false alarm calls and the fines for false alarm calls. According to a report from the Little Elm Police Department, officers responded to more than 700 alarm calls in 2008 of which 97 percent were false alarms.
Wallet leads to burglary arrests
1.9.09 - Cullman Times Online, AL - Capt. Max Bartlett of the Cullman Police Department said the two were arrested shortly after two pharmacies were burglarized. The first burglary occurred at Specialty Pharmacy. Bartlett said when Cullman County Sheriff’s deputies responded to the business’s burglary alarm. They discovered its front door had been broken. “The suspect had already fled the scene,” Bartlett said. “But a man was caught on surveillance camera wearing dark clothing and taking small amounts of narcotics.”

Bartlett said the Cullman Police Department received a burglary alarm call from Borden Pharmacy a short time later. “When officers arrived at the location, they observed entry had been made in a similar fashion as the other burglary,” Bartlett said. “Video evidence indicated it was the same suspect.” Further investigation revealed the suspect had dropped his wallet at the scene, Bartlett said.

Police respond to alarm after staff locks her in
1.15.09 - Waterbury Republican American – Canaan, CT
When a silent alarm went off at Webster Bank and summoned police, authorities had to consider that it might have been triggered by someone robbing the place. Instead, Resident Trooper James Promotico found a woman in her 80s clutching a green safe deposit box. She had been locked inside the closed bank, out of sight in a private room reviewing her valuables when the last employee locked the doors and set the alarm system. When she tried to leave, a first set of doors locked behind her. Unable to open a second set of doors, she became trapped in the breezeway. Her activities triggered a motion sensor alarm which alerted police.

Crook Hides In K-Mart Closet, Waits For Store To Close- 1.11.09 - MSNBC - Palm Beach Gardens, FL - Deputies responded to a burglar alarm. An investigation determined that the crook entered the store shortly after 7:45 p.m. and hid in a closet until the store closed. Still images from a surveillance camera show the crook entering the store. The crook got away with about $200,000 worth of jewelry.
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The 81st Legislative Session of the Texas Legislature began on Tuesday, January 13th. In one of the most momentous changes at the inception of a legislative session in recent memory, the Texas House of Representatives unanimously elected a new Speaker, Representative Joe Straus, R-San Antonio.

Straus, a San Antonio businessman, has replaced 40-year House veteran Tom Craddick after having served in the House less than two full terms. The election of Straus as Speaker is in large part a reflection of the much closer margin between the Republican and Democratic parties in the House. Republicans will hold only a two-vote, 76-74 advantage over the Democrats. Indeed, the coalition that helped give Rep. Straus a clear majority of votes for speaker was made up of the bulk of the House Democrats.

As a result, there will be number of new committee chairs appointed in the House later this month with the number of Democratic chairs expected to increase. Rep. Straus has promised to bring a different tone and style to the House of Representatives as well, which could impact the tone of the session as a whole. Straus has stated in interviews that he felt that morale was low in the House of Representatives last session, perhaps due in part to committee chairs and members feeling they were not given as much responsibility as they deserved, and that he wants to find talented, experienced, capable committee chairmen and empower them to do what they think is right, and to trust them and delegate.

Continued on Page 12
Legislative Update

New Year, New Speaker, New Challenges, Continued

By Dan Mays- McWilliams & Associates

Senate May Be More Partisan
Meanwhile, Republican Lt. Governor David Dewhurst will again preside over the Senate, which currently has 19 Republicans and 12 Democrats. Yet while the House may be shifting toward a more bipartisan approach, early indications are that the Senate, traditionally known as a place where both sides of the aisle are able to work together amicably, may be subjected to slightly more partisan politics than in the past.

Rule Fight Sets Tone
On the first day of the 81st Legislature, some Republicans in the Senate backed a measure to dispense with the traditional “two thirds” rule (meaning the number of votes in the Senate required to suspend the regular order of business to bring an item up for floor debate) on the politically charged issues of voter ID and redistricting. Regardless of the outcome of that debate, the two-thirds rule question has proven divisive and polarizing in other recent sessions for the Senate and could go a long way toward setting the tone for the session in that chamber.

Financial Challenges
All of this, of course, is taking place as the Legislature tries to formulate budget and policy to deal with the nation’s economic downturn. Just prior to the start of the 81st Session, Texas Comptroller Susan Combs announced that Texas has a revenue estimate of $77 billion, which is about $9 billion less than it had two years ago. Simply put, the state of Texas (and hence our industry) is in the midst of a crucial transition period. The next few months figure to be one of the most important and active times for TBFAA to cement key relationships with elected officials and begin enacting its strategy for the 81st Regular Session of the Texas Legislature.

Time to Defend Successes
Our association has enjoyed tremendous successes together over the past few years in the legislative and regulatory arenas. But each victory we’ve achieved has only given our opposition more reason to strain harder to undo those victories through legislation. It is therefore imperative that TBFAA answer the call from a defensive standpoint and be more prepared and unified than ever for the 81st Legislative Session.

Private Security Bureau Faces Sunset Process
A number of crucial issues will be presented this session that will warrant the full attention of TBFAA’s members. Significantly, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will undergo Sunset review during the 2009 session. Lawmakers may consider proposals for organizational changes to the agency, while trying to increase retention and recruitment of staff. It has been rumored that the DPS Sunset bill will be carried in the Senate by Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa (D – McAllen). In the House, meanwhile, uncertainty may continue to linger for a time as new Committee chairmanships are sorted out and the new power structure is determined.

Sunset Process Also Impacts Fire Rules
The Texas Sunset Advisory Commission has also made a number of recommendations concerning the Texas Department of Insurance, which has purview over issues relating to fire marshals among other things. In particular, the Sunset Advisory Commission recommended getting rid of some of the TDI workgroups, including those that included a representative from TBFAA. This will also therefore be a significant issue to monitor.

Continued on Page 14
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House Bill 70 by Rep. Ryan Guillen (D – Rio Grande City) would exempt a public security officer licensed or applying for a license under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, from a licensing authority being allowed to suspend or revoke their license on the grounds that they have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the licensed occupation. The bill would limit a licensing authority’s ability to suspend a license for such individuals to offenses committed less than five years before the date the person applies for the license and other exceptions. The bill allows licenses to be given to applicants convicted of a felony or misdemeanor that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the licensed occupation, and requires licenses to be given to applicants convicted of any other offense.

House Bill 173 by Rep. Mark Strama (D – Austin) changes provisions concerning the election of the Texas Commissioner of Insurance. The bill specifies that the Insurance Commissioner would be elected by the qualified voters at the general election for state and county officers for a term of four years. Currently, the Insurance Commissioner is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for a two year term.

House Bill 128 by Rep. Burt Solomons (R – Carrollton) would provide that applicants for licensure or licensure renewal under the Occupations Code must establish that they are eligible for employment in the United States. The bill specifies several items that could be used to establish employment eligibility, including a U.S. passport, a Certificate of U.S. citizenship, or a Certificate of Naturalization. Applicants would be issued temporary licenses for 21 days while this information is verified.

House Bill 227 by Rep. Jim Pitts (R – Waxahachie) provides an exemption from investigation company license requirements for certain information technology professionals. Specifically, the bill provides that an information technology professional is not considered to be “obtaining or furnishing information” for purposes of the licensure requirement if the professional is installing or repairing a person’s computer equipment for the person or is examining the cause for the required repair, and is not performing any other act that requires a license.

House Bill 292 by Rep. Harold Dutton (D – Houston) allows an individual convicted of any offense under the laws of the State of Texas to submit an application for restoration of any civil rights forfeited under Texas law as a result of the conviction.

Establish and Strengthen Relationships
Obviously, it is important for TBFAA and all of its members to establish and strengthen as many positive relationships with legislators as possible right now. The single most effective lobbying tactic that our association can utilize is when a legislator hears directly from a TBFAA member who is one of his or her constituents. Elected officials by definition can always be counted on first and foremost to respond to the needs and concerns of the people they represent, and it is therefore incumbent upon each TBFAA member to voice those concerns in order to effect change. As a member of TBFAA, you have the ability to positively impact your business and the future of our industry through your involvement in our legislative efforts.

Remain Vigilant and be Prepared
As is always the case, any time an organization such as ours has been “winning,” there must be others who came out on the losing end, and it is certain that those entities will make efforts to chip away at our accomplishments this session. As such, much of the legislative focus this session may likely involve defensive strategies to protect the key measures we have passed. Often times these are the most important battles we can fight, and TBFAA must remain vigilant and be prepared for unforeseen dangers. We encourage all of our members to stay involved.
## 2009 Training Schedule

### Here’s just some of the many TBFAA Training Courses Available:

**Level One**

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**Fire Prep**

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For more class offerings, information and additional dates, visit www.TBFAA.org or call 877-908-2322.

### Gain Confidence and Improve Your Skills

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Legislative Updates

Legislative Team Ready for Action

By: Rodney Hooker, TBFAA Legislative Chair

As I walked up to the Capitol today, I wondered what would be in store for the TBFAA this session. The atmosphere in the Capitol today was that of the first day of school after summer recess. All the Senators and Representatives were jovial, cordial and in good spirits. They all have the mind set that this will be a kinder, gentler session with the changing of the guard in the House. It seems that the newly elected Speaker of the House, Joe Strauss has set the tone of cooperation, and openness that has been missing for the last several sessions.

Hope For A Productive Session
The governors legislative director, former Senator Ken Armbrister and I visited for a while, and he gave me the feeling that this will be a much more productive session for all involved. My hope is that what I witnessed today will last for the entire session.

Legislative Team
That being said, the TBFAA Legislative Team is ready for any and all challenges that will come our way. This group is comprised of Malcolm Reed, Chip Bird, Chris Russell, Debi Ulmer, Mike Samulin, Jeff Bright and myself. We will be working closely with Andrea and Dean McWilliams of McWilliams and Associates to identify and track any legislation that could adversely affect the citizens of Texas and our industry as it pertains to Public Safety and Security. (You will find a report from the McWilliams elsewhere in this issue).

Focus On Sunet Process
We will be focused on the Sunset Legislation pertaining to the Department of Public Safety, and the Texas Department of Insurance as it relates to issues that affect the industry. We will also be working with DPS on legislation that pertains to Occupations Code 1702 regarding laws that affect our license process, and other provisions that mandate how we conduct our daily business.

Defensive Posture
The TBFAA will be in more of a defensive posture this session, and will be looking at amendments to bills that can adversely change the intent of the proposed legislation.

Heed the Call
During the session, you may get a call from me or another member of the Legislative Team to help by calling or meeting with your Representative or Senator. This is an important function as the members always listen more closely to the people they represent from their districts. If you get that call, please get involved in the process as your voice may make the difference of how a bill is handled by the Legislature.

Join Us to Walk the Halls
We are planning a “Walk the Halls” day in Austin on March 17th along with the other industries regulated by DPS. If you can travel to Austin on the 17th, please let me know as soon as you can. The other industry groups will be there in force for this event, and I would like to see as many TBFAA members there as possible.

We have reserved Serrano’s restaurant for the evening for a mixer with the Members and staff. Last session we had people from 14 different House/Senate offices attend this function. It is a fun time, and a great way to get to know these people on a more personal basis. There will be more information as this event is organized.

As I said to Ken Armbrister and staff yesterday, Let the Games begin.
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Gentex
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Matrix Systems, Inc.
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Napco Sec. Systems, Inc.
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Associate News

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HAI has released its 2009 Product Catalog. It can be downloaded from HAI’s website at www.homeauto.com or a printed copy can be ordered by calling (800) 229-7256, x 226, or e-mailing sales@homeauto.com.

Bosch Upgrades Allegiant Video Control System for Superior Performance and Reliability - Bosch Security Systems, Inc. announced the upgrade of its LTC 8900 Series Allegiant Video Switcher/Control System with the introduction of a new PC platform that delivers higher security, greater processing power and enhanced reliability. For more information on the enhanced LTC 8900 Series Allegiant, visit www.boschsecurity.us.
New Code Requirements

Eight Points to Know About NFPA 720-2009 Changes

Courtesy System Sensor

The new edition, NFPA 720-2009, will be issued in October and will be the Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment. The standard has been completely rewritten to encompass more types of occupancies and to more specifically define CO detection system usage.

There are eight main changes and additions to NFPA 720 that will affect you:

1) **NFPA 720 nationally standardizes CO detection for all buildings, not just residences.** The 2005 edition of NFPA 720 addressed only dwelling units. The new commercial installation requirements in NFPA 720-2009 contain extracts from NFPA 72®: National Fire Alarm Code®, and can be found in chapters 1 through 8. Chapter 9 covers households.

2) **CO alarm signals need to be distinct from other signals and indicate sensor failure or end of life.** In the 2005 edition of NFPA 720, CO detectors were required to be connected to a control panel via a supervisory circuit only. NFPA 720-2009 requires CO alarm signals to be distinct and “descriptively annunciated” from fire alarm, CO supervisory and CO trouble signals. Furthermore, the CO alarm signal should take precedence over supervisory or trouble signals. The actuation of a CO detector or system should be distinctly indicated as a CO alarm signal.

CO detector trouble signals must be indicated visually and audibly at the control panel and supervising station. Therefore, the CO detector must have an integral trouble relay that will send trouble conditions to the control panel, such as a sensor failure or sensor end-of-life signal.

3) **CO detectors are now held to the same life safety standard as smoke detectors: They will send trouble signals to the control panel and facilitate wiring supervision.**

CO detector trouble signals are required to be indicated visually and audibly at the control panel and supervising station. Therefore, conventional hard-wired CO detectors must have an integral trouble relay that will send trouble conditions to the control panel such as a sensor failure or end-of-life signal. NFPA 720-2009 requires manufacturers of system-connected CO detectors to incorporate the same critical life safety supervision concepts as smoke detection devices to prevent undetected device failures. In addition to the trouble signals noted previously, CO detectors must facilitate wiring supervision.

4) **CO detector location is more specific than ever.** Based on research conducted by the Fire Protection Research Foundation, NFPA 720-2009 has specific requirements for the location of CO detectors. In commercial buildings, CO detectors need to be located on the ceiling in the same room as permanently installed fuel-burning appliances and centrally located on every habitable level and in every HVAC zone of the building. In dwelling units, CO detectors must be installed outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of a dwelling unit, including basements. Applicable laws, codes and standards may require additional locations.

5) **New secondary power supply requirements for CO detection systems differ considerably from fire alarm systems.**

NFPA 720-2009 requires CO detection systems to have sufficient secondary power to operate the system under quiescent load (system operating in a normal condition) for at least 24 hours. After that time, the system must operate all of the CO notification appliances for 12 hours if a supervising station does not monitor the system. If the CO detection system is monitored by a supervising station, the 12-hour requirement can be reduced to 60 minutes.

Continued on Page 20
Turbulent Times Require Dedication
By Bill Parsley, President, South Texas Alarm Assoc.

This year has really flown by in the security industry in South Texas. It seems that only yesterday that Bob Valance Jr. of Vallance Security was elected President of the South Texas Alarm Association, and now after the October election of officers I am serving another term as President. I want to thank Bob, Moe Orein of TotalCom Management, Randy Stowers of Stowers Security, Sandra Barton of Security One, Jackie Baldwin of ADI-San Antonio, for leading the association last year. They did an excellent job, and as a result our Association is in better shape than ever before. Again, Thanks to each one of you for a job well done.

This year I am pleased to have Mike Schobel, local ASG Branch Manager, as my Vice President, Sarah Salazar, with UCC as our Secretary, Sandra Barton, with Security One, as our Treasurer, Jackie Baldwin with ADI-SA as the Vendor Rep, and Robert Byrd of Security One as the Dealer Rep make up the Officers of the South Texas Alarm Association. We have had two Board meetings and are working on some great ideas to bring before the membership in the near future.

This coming year will present several challenges to the STAA. The renewed emphases by the San Antonio Police Department and city to cut down on needless dispatches, the always volatile Texas State Legislation, and the continued interest in South Texas by out of state firms that seem to be here just to collect a few bucks and then leave the citizens to the mercy of the Texas winds, give the STAA an opportunity to take a leadership role of a good citizen and business leader and work for the peace of mind and physical security of our citizens and subscribers.

South Texas is, as always, ready to assist the TBFAA in whatever means or ways we can. We understand, through the previous leadership from our Association, what service and dedication to an organization really means in these turbulent times.

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8) **Testing requirements have been inserted into the new standard.** However, functional tests won’t take effect until 2012, and sensitivity tests won’t take effect until 2015. Functional testing will only apply to system detectors installed after January 1, 2012. At that time, CO tests will be required at initial acceptance and then annually by introduction of CO into the sensing chamber or element. An electronic check (magnets, analog values, etc.) would not comply with this requirement.

Sensitivity testing will take effect January 1, 2015. In units other than one- and two-family dwellings, sensitivity of CO detectors and single- and multiple-station CO alarms will need to be checked within one year after installation and every alternate year thereafter, unless otherwise permitted. After the second required calibration test, if sensitivity tests indicate that the device has remained within its listed and marked sensitivity range, the length of time between calibration tests can be extended to five years.

7) **NFPA 720 clarifies what supervisory stations should do when they receive a CO alarm signal.**

Off-premises signal transmission requirements for commercial buildings now set a priority of signals. A CO alarm signal must be distinctively indicated as a CO alarm signal and needs to be distinct from a fire alarm signal and take priority over supervisory or trouble signals.

If the communications methodology is shared with any other usage, all fire alarm, CO alarm, supervisory and trouble signals will take priority, in that order of priority, over all other signals unless otherwise permitted by the AHJ.

If the order of the signal priority cannot be assured, the maximum duration between the initiation of an alarm signal at the protected premises, transmission of the signal, and subsequent display and recording of the alarm signal at the supervising station shall not exceed 90 seconds.

Upon receipt of a CO alarm signal, supervising station personnel will immediately retransmit indication of the signal to the communications center (where required by the emergency response agency) and contact responsible party(s) in accordance with the notification plan.

For households, off-premise transmissions shall immediately retransmit indication of the CO alarm signal to the emergency response agency, where required, and contact the responsible party(s). Once contacted, the occupants must be informed of proper actions, such as evacuating and counting heads.

8) **CO notification appliances must meet certain audible and visible requirements.**

In most cases, the integral sounder of a CO detector will be sufficient for notifying occupants of commercial and residential buildings. The audible CO alarm shall be a temporal 4 signal consisting of a single-tone pattern including four cycles of 100 milliseconds ±10 percent “on” and 100 milliseconds ±10 percent “off,” followed by five seconds ±10 percent “off.” After the initial four minutes of alarm, the five-second “off” time can be changed to 60 seconds ±10 percent. The alarm signal should repeat until the alarm resets or is manually silenced and is synchronized within the notification zone.

The new standard does not require the installation of CO horns and strobes throughout a building. It allows occupant notification to be limited to the notification zone encompassing the area where the CO signal is originated, if the CO alarm signal is transmitted to a constantly attended on-site location or off-premises location.

Notification appliances for CO signaling cannot have the word FIRE, or any form of a fire symbol, on the appliance that is visible to the public. Notification appliances with multiple visible elements shall be permitted to have fire markings only on those visible elements used for fire signaling.

Lights used for CO signaling shall be clear or nominal white, or it can be another color as required by the emergency plan or AHJ for the area or building. Lights shall not exceed 1000 cd.
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