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Texas Burglar & Fire Alarm Association
TBFAA Information

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<tr>
<td>President Kelly Ryan</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:president@tbfaa.org">president@tbfaa.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Security VP Paul Rusch</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:paul@blueinesecurity.com">paul@blueinesecurity.com</a></td>
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<td>Secretary Sarah Salazar</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Treasurer Malcolm Reed</td>
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<td>Immediate Past President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Dir. Mary Edmonson</td>
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<td>Training Director Whitney Crahen</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Whitney@fireready.us">Whitney@fireready.us</a></td>
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<td>Region 1 Director Edward Viavattene</td>
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<td>Region 2 Director Rex E. Adams</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
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<td>Central Texas Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Peninger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:greg.peninger@protex.me">greg.peninger@protex.me</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast Texas Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lloyd Young</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:lloydyoung@securarac.com">lloydyoung@securarac.com</a></td>
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<td>Rio Grande Valley Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel Hilliard</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jhilliard@apstexas.com">jhilliard@apstexas.com</a></td>
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<td>HGCAA Board Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian McKinney</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:brookes-smith@sbcglobal.net">brookes-smith@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:dlittle@teamucc.com">dlittle@teamucc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:roger@securityone.net">roger@securityone.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jj@mee.com">jj@mee.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Advisor Mitch Reitman</td>
</tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:mreitman@ssic.us">mreitman@ssic.us</a></td>
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<td>Legislative Chair Chris Russell</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:chris@dpi-alarm.com">chris@dpi-alarm.com</a></td>
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<td>Committee Chairs</td>
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Central Texas Chapter
www.tbfaa.org

Northeast Texas Chapter
www.tbfaa.org

Rio Grande Valley Chapter
www.tbfaa.org

Houston Gulf Coast Association
www.HGCAA.org

North Texas Alarm Association
www.NTAA.org

South Texas Alarm Association
www.SouthTexasAlarm.com

National Electronic Security Alliance
www.NESAUS.org

False Alarm Reduction Association
www.faraonline.org

Texas Fire Alarm Association
www.tbfaa.com

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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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Once again, we expect a great turnout from our membership as well as our industry vendors, and with the leadership skills of our new convention committee, I expect the 2016 event to be our best yet!

Too often, I have had members tell me they have not heard about an upcoming event. To help stay informed, please make sure that you are following TBFAA on LinkedIn as well as Twitter @TxBFAA. If you are not receiving our Constant Contact emails, please visit the TBFAA website and sign-up for our email notices through our signup for email news page.

TBFAA information and updates are also given during the local and chapter association meetings, so please mark your calendars to attend your local association meetings!

Last year’s legislative session in Texas was busy, and the TBFAA called on a number of our members to help with our legislative efforts. To all the members that contacted their state representatives on our behalf, Thank You! While 2016 may be an “off” year for Texas session, your involvement in TBFAA is still very important as there will probably be many local issues that will require the watchful eye and involvement of our members.

Let’s keep the momentum of the TBFAA moving! While a lot was accomplished in 2015, we don’t have time to rest in 2016. As you meet other dealers and vendors in our great state, be sure to invite them to attend a local association or chapter meeting, and be sure to ask them to join the TBFAA! #TBFAA2016

Kelly Ryan

As we welcome in 2016, I’d like to start things off by first thanking everyone within TBFAA for their support. We had a successful 2015 legislative session and a great annual convention, so let’s keep the momentum going by looking forward to our next year!

The 2016 TBFAA Annual Convention & Trade Show will be at the Hilton Dallas/Rockwall Lakefront Resort, October 26th-28th. This is a beautiful resort that sits on the shore of Lake Ray Hubbard, and it will be a fantastic location for our event. Golf will be on the 26th, and the convention will be the 27th & 28th.
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- Authoritative Domain Name Service
- Dedicated Server Hosting
- High-speed Internet Services 1.5mb to 100mb

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What’s in Your Fire Alarm - Does It Comply?

by: Whitney J. Crahen, SET
TBFAA Training Director

2013 NFPA 72 7.5.8 Verification of Compliant Installation

Can you verify that your fire alarm installation or modification complies with the locally adopted Codes?

Verification shall ensure that:

1- All components and functions are installed and operate per the approved plans and sequence of operation
2- All required system documentation is complete and is archived on site.
3- For new monitored systems, all signals required to be transmitted off premises are verified shall.
4- For existing monitored systems, verify the new work you have performed functions and transmits signals in accordance with Chapter 14 for Testing, Inspection and Maintenance.
5- Written confirmation that any required corrective actions have been completed.

If you cannot Verify, you may have to Testify. After all, your name and license number will be going on the required State labels.

TBFAA Chapter & Affiliate Meetings

The TBFAA Central Texas Chapter held a Holiday party on December 15th

The STAA held a Monthly Meeting December 8th
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Our goal at NMC is to help you grow your business by substantially increasing your referrals. We continue to work hard on your behalf and continue to challenge ourselves in order to always achieve our stated goal. Your monitoring center should help you grow your business, not just respond to alarm signals. This is our mission.

And that’s The NMC Promise. Contact us today.
How Does Congress’ New Tax Bill Affect Security, Alarm Companies?

Certain provisions of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 can benefit those in the security industry.

By Mitch Reitman · December 17, 2015

On December 15th, Congress passed the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015. The Act extends some tax benefits that are important to the owners of security and alarm companies. As many company owners are painfully aware, Congress has temporarily “extended” many of these items in the past but they were either done for a year at a time, or, as in the case of last year, in arrears so that they covered the prior year but not the current or future years.

The Act has numerous provisions, but here are the ones that are most significant to owners of security companies and systems integrators.

Section 179 expensing, which determines the amount of an investment a small business is allowed to write off entirely in the first year rather than being depreciated over multiple years, will be made permanent and its level would be increased. This is a huge benefit for most security and systems integration companies as most equipment — and certain “work vehicles” — qualify for Section 179 expensing.

There are numerous restrictions and limitations so check with your tax advisor before making any end of the year purchases.

A separate provision that allows 50% of the cost of improvements to be written off under “bonus depreciation” would be extended for five years. This is also significant to many security and systems integrations companies. Again, check with your tax advisors as there are some restrictions and limitations.

Another huge provision in the Act is the extension of the reduced five-year Built in Gains period. Built in Gains come into play when a C Corporation converts to an S Corporation. Any assets existing at the time of the conversion are treated as if they are still assets of the C Corporation if they are sold during the Built in Gains period.

Previously this period was 10 years, meaning that if a security company that was a C Corporation converted to S Corporation status it would still encounter “double taxation” on the sale of its RMR in an asset sale for 10 years after the election. The Act permanently reduces this period to five years, which is much more palatable.

This is an excellent opportunity to convert from C Corporation status to S Corporation status for the new year. While electing to be taxed as an S Corporation is very simple, there are quite a few items to be considered.

It is very important that you discuss this with your tax advisor (and convince him/her that the RMR can really be sold at a multiple) before making the election.

There are numerous other positive provisions of the Act including higher limits on expensing equipment and other items. Most significant is that Congress has passed a bipartisan bill that is pro-business, but not so much that it faces a presidential veto.

Please discuss the Act with your tax advisor or call us if they can’t answer your questions. We not only know the tax code, we know the security industry.

Mitch Reitman is Principal of Reitman Consulting Group, which provides tax and business advisory services to the Security and Systems Integration Industry. He can be reached at 817-698-9999 or www.Reitman.US.
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2015 Convention Highlights

A record 53 Exhibitors welcomed a record over 300 Attendees to the TBFAA Trade Show

A record 300 attendees took part in the classes, show, meals and receptions

Over 14 hours of CEU approved sessions were offered
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Kelly Ryan (above left) was honored at the TBFAA 2015 Person of the Year by Jeff Bright (above right).

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- Roast & Toast Dinner after the Trade Show
- Pool Party with Cash Bar After Roast & Toast

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The Rio Grande Valley Chapter held a successful Mixer in McAllen on December 3rd. Thanks to all who attended and sponsored the event.
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2016 Training Schedule
Gain Confidence & Improve Your Skills

This is a great opportunity to increase your own productivity and share solutions with others also on the front lines of the fire and burglar alarm industry.

Fire Exam Prep
16 Hour - 2 day Fire Prep Course prepares you for the State Fire Marshal Exams. – Covers Texas Law & Rules, NFPA 72 National Fire Code, NFPA 70- National Electrical Code, International Residential Code, applicable sections of NFPA 101, UL monitoring requirements and Standards for Suppression & Control. The Texas Department of Public Safety also approves this 16-hour course for 16 CEU credits

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8 Hour -1 day Residential Fire Alarm Technician

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<td>November</td>
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Level 1 Class
This training program, provided by TBFAA is a certified, nationally recognized training program approved by the Texas Department of Public Safety, License #0104. This 16-hour course meets requirements for installers and salespersons. The program provides an overview on the theory, installation and maintenance of alarm systems. Topics include: Burglar Alarm Systems Overview, Sensors, Controls & Communications, Notification Devices, Hold up Alarms, Professionalism & Ethics, Building Construction, Safety, Law, Standards & Codes, General Electricity & Electronics, Microprocessors & Computers, Tools & Fasteners, Testing & Troubleshooting.

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<td>August</td>
<td>25&amp;26</td>
<td>El Paso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>29&amp;30</td>
<td>DFW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>10&amp;11</td>
<td>McAllen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>1&amp;2</td>
<td>San Antonio</td>
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