

## **Fire Alarm Plan Review & The Code Official's Role in Fire Alarm Maintenance and Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarms**

**PRESENTED BY:** Zone 1 Fire Marshals

**EVENT FEE:** \$100 (includes lunch)

**When:** June 19 & 20 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Kirkland Criminal Justice Center  
11740 NE 118<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kirkland WA 98034

### **Description:**

**Plan Review.** This course will provide code officials responsible for reviewing and approving fire alarm drawings with the necessary information to ensure the system meets the minimum requirements outlined in the National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code. Persons responsible for designing and installing fire alarm systems will also benefit by having a better understanding of what is required per NFPA 72. Topics to be covered include: the new format and why it changed; battery calculations and voltage drop calculations; fire alarm fundamentals proper installation criteria for initiating devices and notification appliances; elevator control function and interface; and compliant vs. non-compliant methods for transmitting the fire alarm signal from the protected premises to the supervising station. Participants will review different fire alarm drawings to ensure code compliant installations.

### **The Code Official's Role in Fire Alarm Maintenance and Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarms.**

Throughout the United States fire departments are struggling with how to address the problem of nuisance fire alarm calls. Every time a fire department responds to an unwanted fire alarm it needlessly puts the general public and firefighter lives at risk. Unwanted alarms can also negatively impact a fire department's budget. This course will provide fire code officials and fire alarm contractors with specific criteria outlining how to reduce the number of unwanted alarms in their jurisdiction. Topics to be discussed include: discussing the issue of unwanted alarms plaguing many fire departments around the country; ensuring proper installation of initiating devices to prevent nuisance alarms; and ensuring fire alarm systems are properly inspected, tested and maintained.

### **Information about the Speaker: John R. Swanson, Deputy State Fire Marshal (MN)**

John has worked in the fire service as a firefighter, fire marshal, and state fire marshal for nearly 20 years. He is certified as a Fire Inspector III, Plans Examiner, Firefighter II and NICET certified in fire alarm systems. He currently represents the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division on several state and national code development and interpretation committees, including the IBC Fire Safety Committee and NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code. He has traveled the United States providing training on NFPA 72, serves as a contract instructor for the International Code Council (ICC), and has provided trainings around the United States for the National Fire Academy and Society of Fire Protection Engineers. In 2013, John was appointed by Minnesota Governor, Mark Dayton to the state board responsible for establishing rules and regulations for those practicing in the architectural and engineering professions.

In 2013, John's youngest son was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Due to this, John has a personal interest in fire alarm systems and fire safety for children with autism spectrum disorder and

other special needs. Through his work on the NFPA 72 technical committee, John has been a part of a national task group to review fire alarm notification appliances and the impact they have on children with autism. He has also served as a consultant nationally to design professionals, school districts and code officials on autism related fire and life safety issues.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:**

This course is excellent for designers, architects, plan reviewers, building officials, fire marshals, building and fire code inspectors.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS:**

John Swanson is an ICC Preferred Provider. The Fire Alarm portion will be awarded 1.0 ICC CEUs and the Unwanted Fire Alarm portion .35 ICC CEUs



**To Register:** <http://www.fftraining.org/classes/classdetail.asp?ClassID=287>

For Class questions, contact Teri Wallace: [TWallace@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:TWallace@kirklandwa.gov) | 425 587-3634