

Subject: Fire Watch Guidelines**References:** Denver Fire Code**Approved:** Cory DeBaere, Division Chief, Fire Prevention Division**Revised Date:** May 6, 2021

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This policy is meant to provide basic information in any given occupancy. All Fire Code requirements will be enforced, these will be addressed by the Fire Inspector.

I. SCOPE

A Fire Watch is used for continually occupied sites that are temporarily without full fire protection. City and County of Denver Ordinance requires that a building's fire protection, fire alarm, and fire detection systems are fully functional at all times.

II. SYSTEMS

A. Problematic Systems. Fire alarm systems that generate two (2) or more false or nuisance fire alarms within twenty-four (24) hours, three (3) or more within thirty (30) days, or ten (10) or more within one year shall be immediately repaired, mitigated or replaced. A permit shall be obtained before performing any system repair. If the system is found to be impaired two (2) or more times within a twelve (12) month period, legal action will be imposed until the system(s) is restored to code compliance.

B. Systems Out of Service. Systems undergoing maintenance or modification shall not have any portion of the system out of service for more than ten (10) hours. Fire Watch must be provided in all areas of the building if maintenance or modification takes any portion of the system out of service.

III. REFERENCES

[Denver Fire Code](#)

IV. DEFINITIONS

[Denver Fire Code](#)

V. PERMITS

A. Construction Permits, where required.

1. Obtain construction permits via Development Services E-Permits: [Development Services E-Permits](#).

B. Operational Permits required.

1. Obtain Operational Permits via E-Permits: [Denver Fire Department - Fire Safety Operational Permits](#).

VI. SPECIFICS AND CONDITIONS

A. Any time a fire alarm or sprinkler system is compromised, the building owner, agent, or lessee must notify the Denver Fire Department using the System Down Reporting Website. **If a system is down for longer than 10 hours, a Fire Watch Permit is required.**

- B. When the building's fire or sprinkler system is fully restored and operational, the building owner, agent, or lessee must log on to the System Down Reporting Website and notify DFD that the system is fully functional.
- C. Qualified personnel shall be on site continuously to conduct Fire Watch throughout the structure/building/area at 30-minute intervals, or as determined by the Fire Prevention Division.

VII. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Additional requirements: [Denver Fire Department System Down and Fire Watch Reporting](#).

VIII. TESTING & MAINTENANCE

A log and subsequent record of all actions taken during the Fire Watch must be maintained and/or submitted to the Fire Prevention Division of the Denver Fire Department

IX. RECORD RETENTION

END OF DOCUMENT