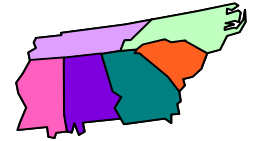




REGIONAL REPORT

Tennessee/South East Edition



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Carl Cutrell Jr. sworn in as the Area 3 Director

Carl Cutrell was sworn in as the Area 3 Director at the NFSA Annual Conference in Chicago. Carl is Co-Owner with his partner Jim Ring of Nashville Sprinkler Company located in Nashville, Tennessee. Carl has been and will continue to be the President of the Tennessee Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association.

To contact Carl is email address is ccutrelljr@comcast.net or you can call him at (615) 859-6660



NFSA release it 2009 Annual Report

To download a copy of the 2009 Annual Report please click on the following link [NFSA 2009 Annual Report](#)

Industry Leaders Partner for Dwelling Fire Sprinkler Contractor Accreditation.

The Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE), the International Code Council, and the National Fire Sprinkler Association are developing a joint Memorandum of Understanding that includes the creation of a new Commission for the Accreditation for Dwelling Fire Sprinkler Contractors. Using the CPSE accreditation model, many additional stakeholders will be brought together in this newly formed commission to jointly develop programs for accreditation, leveraging their collective knowledge, provisions and expertise.

To address the huge upswing in demand for contractors who are qualified to install residential fire sprinkler systems driven by these new regulations, The Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE), the International Code Council (ICC), and the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) are developing a joint Memorandum of Understanding that includes the creation of a new Commission for the Accreditation for Dwelling Fire Sprinkler Contractors. Using the CPSE accreditation model, many additional stakeholders will be brought together to form this newly formed commission to jointly develop programs for accreditation, leveraging their collective knowledge, provisions and expertise.

Although this initiative originated with three important and respected organizations, all construction professionals are encouraged to lend their support to help evolve and grow this lifesaving initiative. The collective participation of the construction community will ensure that the industry is fully trained and qualified.

The timing of this agreement couldn't be better: approved fire sprinkler systems will be required in all one- and two-family dwellings constructed after the 2009 IRC is adopted or on January 1, 2011, whichever is later. While there are professionals who are well trained to install commercial fire sprinklers, the demand for qualified residential sprinkler contractors is growing at a tremendous rate. Given the dependence on the life-saving benefits of fire sprinklers in residential properties, it is

imperative that there is a system to ensure quality installation. The program will ensure that the entire industry has access to a superior level of training and have taken the ICC Residential Fire Sprinkler Design and Installation Exam, which is critical to enable construction projects to be completed on schedule and ensure quality installation. These highly qualified contractors will be accredited by a well respected, nationally recognized organization. This will provide home buyers, contractors and fire and life safety agencies with an added sense of security in knowing these fire sprinkler systems will be properly designed and installed.

DEAN CORNWELL GOLF CLASSIC

June 7, 2010, Windtree Golf Club, Mt. Juliet, TN

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Peach Tree City, Georgia, votes down fire sprinkler mandate for new homes

A proposal to require fire sprinkler systems to be installed in all new single family homes in Peachtree City failed on a 4-1 vote at Thursday night's City Council meeting.

Fire Chief Ed Eiswerth gave an impassioned plea urging approval of the ordinance, citing recent construction techniques that have caused quicker building collapses when they are exposed to fire. He also noted that sprinklers dramatically increase a person's chances of surviving a fire.

Several representatives of the home building industry argued against the fire sprinkler requirement, saying that residents can currently opt to put in fire sprinkler systems currently if they choose.

Language that would have required fire sprinklers to be retrofitted for single family homes used for day care or health care businesses was removed from the staff-recommended ordinance prior to the council meeting.

The ordinance change was denied by council on a 4-1 vote at the meeting April 1. The only council member in favor of the sprinkler requirement was Kim Learnard, who said the matter wasn't about money, rather it was about saving lives.

Councilmember Vanessa Fleisch, who is a Realtor, said she didn't think it was up to the government "to save us from ourselves."

"There's no doubt it saves lives, but in the end I'm tired of government thinking for me, so I'm for the choice," Fleisch said.

No sprinklers required in old building in Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Construction crews have already begun hauling away debris and insurance assessors have come and gone since a fire destroyed a downtown business and damaged its neighbors.

But the question probing some residents' minds remains — why wasn't the 100-year-old Music City Medical Supply building on West Main Street equipped with a sprinkler system?

The answer lies in the building codes that have been adopted by the city of Murfreesboro, according to city Codes Director Gary Whitaker.

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He explained that, depending on a building's construction materials, the size of the space and its use, the building may or may not be required to have sprinklers. "You have to plug those facts into a table to determine when sprinklers are required," Whitaker said. Additionally, buildings are subject to the codes adopted at the time they're built. "Codes don't give us a right to go into an existing building that was established under a different, previous code and make it adhere to new codes," Whitaker said. That is, unless its use changes in such a way that it will fall into a different category. He used the building diagonally across from 3 Brothers Deli & Brewhouse, also damaged in the fire, as a prime example.



Before Emporium Nightclub opened, it was a retail marketplace, which didn't require a sprinkler system. However, as it was transformed into a restaurant, bar and dance club, and its occupancy increased, it needed sprinklers.

Such wasn't the case for Music City Medical Supply, which had been in the same location for more than a decade inside a century-old building.

In addition to the lack of sprinklers, old, dry timber under a masonry facade likely provided fuel for the fire, Whitaker said. Fire officials have yet to pinpoint a cause for the fire.

"That building wouldn't be required to have sprinklers under the new or the old code," he said.

Regardless of codes, both Whitaker and City Environmental Engineer Sam Huddleston acknowledged that sprinklers can minimize damage and potentially save lives. "We can't always prevent (situations), but we can add an element of safety," Huddleston said.

Sprinklers prevent fire from spreading in building on Birmingham, Alabama, north side

A commercial building on Birmingham's north side caught fire tonight when clothing sitting on a loading dock ignited. But fire sprinklers prevented the blaze from spreading inside the building, fire officials said.

Birmingham firefighters responded to a fire at an Aramark Corp. uniform-laundry facility in the 2300 block of 24th Street North.

Battalion chief Matt Russell said no one was inside the building when the fire started, and damage was contained to the loading dock. Russell said a passerby called in the fire shortly before 8:30 p.m. Firefighters broke through a gate to get to the fire, he said.

Common Voices Receives Grant for "Building Safe Homes with Fire Sprinklers" Campaign

NFSA is pleased to announce the Common Voices Coalition received notification from the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program, Fire Prevention program, administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that their grant in the amount of \$222,290.00 was funded. Common Voices will use the grant funds for delivery of a national media campaign that will raise awareness of current fire prevention strategies. These strategies will focus on the fact that fire sprinklers are a critical part of a fire protection package, which includes working smoke alarms, a family escape plan, and the installation of home fire sprinklers.

HOME FIRE SPRINKLER COALITION

Fire Sprinklers Proven Green

Protect the Earth One Home At a Time

Are Home Fire Sprinklers Green? The nonprofit Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) is partnering with FM Global on an unprecedented research project to identify, analyze and evaluate the environmental impact caused by home fires – a topic of increasing international importance.

Christopher Wieczorek, Ph.D., Senior Research Specialist, Fire Hazards and Protection, FM Global, will present information pertaining to the full-scale fire tests that compared the environmental impact of sprinklered and non-sprinklered home fires.

To review the Fire Sprinklers are Proven Green presentation please click on the following link [HFSC and FM Global Presentation](#)

NFSA Offers Online Support

Efforts to block the adoption of residential fire-sprinkler regulations prompted the National Fire Sprinkler Association to an [online resource toolbox](#), which will provide community leaders with the information necessary to make the case for fire-sprinkler code adoption.

“The NFSA has experienced an upswing in requests for information regarding local code adoption and/or standalone fire sprinkler legislation,” President John Viniello said.

The NFSA’s free resource toolbox offers reports, articles, documents and brochures related to residential fire sprinklers and fire safety that provide guidance for making the case for fire-sprinkler code adoption. The goal of the toolbox is to highlight resources that have proved beneficial at the local level. Reports include the *Home Fire Sprinkler Cost Assessment* and the *Residential Fire Sprinklers and Housing Economics /A Legislator’s Guide to Life Safety*.

“Local community leaders need all of the latest information in one place, where it is easy to access and use for their specific needs,” said Shane Ray, the organization’s director of public fire protection. “It can be overwhelming when you realize how many resources are available.”

Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act of 2009

We need your help in getting our Senators to sign up as a co-sponsors, please use the Cap Wiz program on the NFSA Web Site.

To view the up to date information on the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act please go to www.nfsa.org or click on the