

INTRODUCED: September 14, 2015

AN ORDINANCE No. 2015-189

As Amended

To amend City Code § [~~46.1-69~~] 13-221, concerning inspection reports for fire prevention systems, for the purpose of requiring persons or firms testing or inspecting fire prevention systems to be certified and qualified to provide such testing or inspecting services.

Patron – Mayor Jones

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: NOV 9 2015 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That section [~~46.1-69~~] 13-221 of the Code of the City of Richmond [~~(2004)~~
(2015)] be and is hereby **amended** and reordained as follows:

Sec. [~~46.1-69~~] 13-221. Inspection Reports.

(a) ~~[Qualifications. Any person or firm providing or conducting tests or inspections of fire protection systems within the city shall submit their certification and qualifications for the provision of such services in accordance with the appropriate National Fire Protection Association standard to the fire code official.]~~

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: JAN 11 2016 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

~~(b)~~ Reporting. It shall be the responsibility of any person or firm providing or conducting tests or inspections of fire protection systems within the city to submit a copy of the results of the aforementioned tests or inspections within 30 days to the fire code official.

~~(c)~~ (b) Rejection of Reports. The fire code official may reject any reports provided pursuant to ~~section 46.1-69(b) and require tests and inspections be provided by another person or firm if~~ subsection (a) of this section unless the person or firm ~~who provided~~ providing the reports also has ~~failed to provide~~ provided the fire code official with documentation of current certification and qualifications to conduct such tests or inspections in accordance with the appropriate National Fire Protection Association standard.

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.



CITY OF RICHMOND
INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

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4-3926
AUG 6 2015

O&R REQUEST

DATE:

EDITION: 3

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: Dwight C. Jones, Mayor

THROUGH: Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Robert Creecy, Fire Chief

RE: Testing and servicing hood fire suppression systems

RECEIVED

AUG 19 2015

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: Improve Fire Official's authority about special hazard fire suppression system testing and servicing by private parties.

REASON: Current fire code lacks specifying qualifications for private parties who test and service fire suppression systems for special hazards, such as an exhaust hood over cooking appliances, or a paint spray booth. Fire officials need authority to confirm minimum qualifications for testing and servicing such fire protection systems.

RECOMMENDATION: Amend Section 46.1-69 to the City Code, which currently reads:

"It shall be the responsibility of any person or firm providing or conducting tests or inspections of fire protection systems within the city to submit a copy of the results of the aforementioned test or inspections within 30 days to the fire code official."

to add afterwards:

"The fire official may require the person or firm providing or conducting inspections, tests, or servicing fire protection systems within the city to submit their certification or qualifications for such services on those fire protection systems. Such certifications or qualifications shall be in accordance with the appropriate NFPA standard. Without satisfactory documentation, the fire official may reject their reports and require services on those systems to be performed by those with satisfactory documentation."

BACKGROUND: Fire code requires periodic inspection, maintenance and testing of fire protection systems, plus maintenance to keep in proper working condition. National standards deem solely those qualified shall test or service such system's per manufacturer's specifications. To best protect system owner's interest, plus property and lives, fire officials need authority to verify if person or firm testing or servicing fire protection systems have proper qualifications. Without them providing satisfactory certifications, fire official is justified to refuse the report and require the work be done by a qualified party.

FISCAL IMPACT / COST: No cost to city.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: Customers who select a service might result in paying for another service if first fails to document they are properly qualified to perform service. More expensive damages could result if improperly serviced system fails to properly suppress cooking fire; potentially resulting in less city revenue after business closes due to damages.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: None

REVENUE TO CITY: None

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: *September 14, 2015*

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: *September 28, 2015*

REQUESTED AGENDA:

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Safety

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: City mechanical officials issue permits for installing or modifying fire protection systems. If service party cannot document proper qualifications to fire officials, city mechanical officials should require adequate qualifications before passing permit for completion.

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Fire and Emergency Services

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Applies city code to promote safety.

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): Empowers fire officials to better verify fire protection system maintenance.

ATTACHMENTS:

O&R Request

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STAFF: