

Policy on Fire Watches

Policy Title	Policy on Fire Watches
Policy #	02.108.1
Policy Owner	Coordinator, Alarm Services
Contact Information	Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Coordinator, Alarm Services at (401) 874-2010
Approved By	Senior Leadership Team
Effective Date	July 23, 2018
Next Review Date	No later than June 30, 2020
Who Needs to Know About this Policy	All University employees. University contractors and vendors are required to comply with the provisions of this policy.
Definitions	<p>Authority Having Jurisdiction. The Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's office and/or entities to whom authority is delegated for administration and enforcement of the state fire code as permitted by Section 1.7.5.</p> <p>Fire Watch. The assignment of a person or persons to an area for the express purpose of notifying the fire department, the building occupants, or both of an emergency; preventing a fire from occurring; extinguishing small fires; or protecting the public from fire or life safety dangers.</p> <p>Impairment. A situation in which any fire protection system, alarm or detection device is removed from service, either partially or completely, including both planned and emergency outages of the system or devices.</p>
Statutes, Regulations, and Policies Governing or Necessitating This Policy	State of Rhode Island, Fire Safety Code
Reason for Policy/Purpose	To minimize the probability of fire or explosion and resulting loss of life and property during occasions when a fire protection system is disabled in whole or in part for any reason by requiring a Fire Watch be posted when a fire alarm, sprinkler system, or other critical life safety feature is wholly or partially impaired.
Forms Related to this Policy	None

Policy Statement

When a fire protection system is impaired, the Coordinator, Fire & Life Safety shall determine Fire Watch requirements in accordance with the University's Procedures for Policy on Fire Watches and applicable provisions of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code. Such Impairments may involve any of several scenarios:

- The fire alarm system is fully functional but the municipal connection is impaired such that the fire department would not be automatically notified should the alarm be activated.
- A portion of the alarm system is impaired due to maintenance or malfunction such that one or more system devices are offline.
- The fire alarm system is entirely out of service.
- Sprinkler, fire pump, smoke evacuation, or other such systems are impaired.
- Normal routes of emergency egress are temporarily blocked.

All personnel assigned to fill a Fire Watch detail shall be properly qualified as defined herein and scheduled in concert with relevant collective bargaining procedures.

The Coordinator, Fire & Life Safety shall determine the specific parameters for each Fire Watch and may modify or adjust requirements based on the extent and the estimated duration of Impairment and building occupancy.

Exceptions

None

RETIRED