



**NASSAU COUNTY FIRE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL**

Nassau County Public Safety Center  
1194 Prospect Avenue  
Westbury, New York 11590  
(516) 573-9900 / nassaucountyny.gov

Chief Fire Marshal  
Scott D. Tusa

# **FIRE MARSHAL BULLETIN**

February 23, 2015 (REVISED from 2012)

To: NCFM – Licensed Fire Alarm and Smoke Detection System Contractors, Installers and Central Station Monitoring Services

From: Assistant Chief Fire Marshal Michael F. Uttaro - [muttaro@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:muttaro@nassaucountyny.gov)

Re: Fire Alarm Communication Devices

All **New** and **Existing** Fire Alarm and Smoke Detection Systems shall be monitored by an approved supervising central station as per the 2010 Building Code of New York State, Section 907.14 and the 2010 Fire Code of New York State, Section 907.15. These shall be monitored by an approved supervising station in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 72 - National Fire Alarm Code 2007 Edition.

However, in addition to the existing NCFM acceptable signal transmission paths, a Managed Facilities-Based Voice Network (**MFVN**) will be acceptable as stated in the NYS Division of Code Enforcement Technical Bulletin dated December 28, 2010, but modified in November of 2011. This Technical Agreement from the NYS Division of Code Enforcement permits the reference of Annex A.3.3.141 of NFPA 72 - 2010 Edition, pertaining to acceptable fire alarm signal transmission paths. Additionally the signal transmission paths must utilize an approved method which is listed and tested in accordance with UL 864 for fire alarm signal transmissions. **The 2010 Fire Code of NYS, 2010 Building Code of NYS and Nassau County Fire Prevention Ordinance shall continue to reference NFPA 72 - 2007 Edition.** Revised as of this date are the Nassau County Fire Marshal's Office acceptable signal transmission paths:

1. A dedicated, **hard wired telephone line** (commonly known as a *POTS* line) supplied by a telephone communications network. In systems utilizing telephone, only the primary line shall be dedicated and the back-up line may be captured.
2. A dedicated, **cellular telephone line** supplied by a telephone communications network. In systems utilizing telephone, only the primary line shall be dedicated and the back-up line may be captured.

3. An approved **digital radio transmitter** utilizing a frequency dedicated for fire alarm transmission use only.
4. An approved **GPRS** (General Packet Radio Service) data communicator with dual path capability.
5. **Internet Communicator** through a **VOIP** (voice over internet provider) / **MFVN** (Managed Facilities-Based Voice Network; i.e. *Cablevision Systems, Verizon FIOS*) will be acceptable. Any fire alarm plan submission to the Nassau County Fire Marshal's Office which proposes the use of MFVN for fire alarm signal transmission shall include a manufacturer's communication equipment cut sheet. Furthermore the NCFM test inspection of the fire alarm system shall include field verification at the protected premise that the communications installation meets **all** of the functionality equivalent requirements. Any conversions from existing acceptable fire alarm signal transmission communication equipment to MFVN communication equipment will require that the communications installation meets **all** of the functionality equivalent requirements set forth in Annex A.3.3.141 of NFPA 72 - 2010 Edition.