



Healthcare Interpretations Task Force
AGENDA

Boston Convention and Exhibition Center
Meeting Room 152
Boston, MA

June 6, 2017
1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

- Call to Order 1:00 P.M.
- Introduction of Members and Guests. **Page 02.**
- Review of Questions.
 - Quarterly Fire Drills in Health Care Facilities. **Page 04.**
 - Protective Mesh on Oxidizing Gas Cylinders. **Page 06.**
- Old Business.
 - NFPA 241 - Separation Requirements during Construction.
- New Business.
- Date / Location for Next Meeting.
- Adjournment by 6:00 PM.

Address List No Phone

05/12/2017

Healthcare Interpretations Task Force

HCI-TFC

Chad E. Beebe Principal ASHE - AHA PO Box 5756 Lacey, WA 98509-5756 Alternate: David A. Dagenais	6/12/2012 HCI-TFC	Kenneth E. Bush Principal Maryland State Fire Marshals Office 301 Bay Street, Lower Level Easton, MD 21601-2721 International Fire Marshals Association Alternate: Kim L. Osborn	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC
Philip J. Hoge Principal US Army Corps of Engineers Humphreys Engineer Center Kingman Building, Suite 3MX 7701 Telegraph Road Alexandria, VA 22315-3813 Alternate: G. Brian Prediger	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC	Bradley C. Keyes Principal Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program 142 East Ontario Street Chicago, IL 60611 Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program Alternate: Joseph L. Cappiello	02/13/2014 HCI-TFC
David P. Klein Principal US Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 800 Mail Code: (10NA8) Washington, DC 20420 Alternate: Peter A. Larrimer	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC	Nick Lu Principal Indian Health Service Division of Engineering Services 701 5th Avenue, Suite 1600, MS RX-24 Seattle, WA 98104 Alternate: Joseph Bermes	3/24/2017 HCI-TFC
James Merrill II Principal US Department of Health & Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 7500 Security Boulevard, M/S S2-12-25 Baltimore, MD 21244-1849 Alternate: Martin Casey	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC	George Mills Principal The Joint Commission Department of Engineering One Renaissance Boulevard Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC
Eric R. Rosenbaum Principal JENSEN HUGHES 3610 Commerce Drive, Suite 817 Baltimore, MD 21227-1652 American Health Care Association Alternate: Phil Thomas	02/28/2013 HCI-TFC	Charlie Schlegel Principal Pennsylvania Department of Health Division of Safety Inspection 2150 Herr Street, 1st Floor, Suite A Harrisburg, PA 17103 State Health Care Agency (SHA) Alternate: John L. Williams	HCI-TFC
Randall Snelling Principal Det Norske Veritas Healthcare Chief Physical Environment Officer 400 Techne Center Drive, Suite 100 Milford, OH 45150-3706	02/13/2014 HCI-TFC	Robert E. Solomon Principal National Fire Protection Association 1 Batterymarch Park Quincy, MA 02169-7471 Alternate: Gregory E. Harrington	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC

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Joseph Bermes Alternate Indian Health Service Division of Engineering Services 701 5th Avenue, Suite 1600, MS RX-24 Seattle, WA 98104 Principal: Nick Lu	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC	Joseph L. Cappiello Alternate Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program 142 East Ontario Street Chicago, IL 60611 Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program Principal: Bradley C. Keyes	HCI-TFC
Martin Casey Alternate US Department of Health & Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 7500 Security Boulevard, M/S S2-12-25 Baltimore, MD 21244-1849 Principal: James Merrill II	06/11/2015 HCI-TFC	David A. Dagenais Alternate Wentworth-Douglass Hospital 789 Central Avenue Dover, NH 03820 American Society for Healthcare Engineering Principal: Chad E. Beebe	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC
Gregory E. Harrington Alternate National Fire Protection Association 1 Batterymarch Park Quincy, MA 02169-7471 Principal: Robert E. Solomon	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC	Peter A. Larrimer Alternate US Department of Veterans Affairs 1805 Constitution Blvd Valencia, PA 16059 Principal: David P. Klein	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC
Kim L. Osborn Alternate Michigan Dept. of Labor & Economic Growth State Fire Marshals Office/Bureau of Fire Services PO Box 30700 Lansing, MI 48909 International Fire Marshals Association Principal: Kenneth E. Bush	10/4/2009 HCI-TFC	G. Brian Prediger Alternate US Army Medical Command Headquarters Director, Engineering 7700 Arlington Blvd., Suite 2SW127 Falls Church, VA 22042-2929 Principal: Philip J. Hoge	5/27/2010 HCI-TFC
Phil Thomas Alternate Phil Thomas & Associates PLC 10008 Carmen Vincent Court Fort Smith, AR 72908-9199 American Health Care Association Principal: Eric R. Rosenbaum	02/27/2014 HCI-TFC	John L. Williams Alternate Washington State Department of Health Construction Review Services 310 Isreal Road, SE PO Box 47852 Olympia, WA 98504 State Health Care Agency (SHA) Principal: Charlie Schlegel	06/20/2016 HCI-TFC

**HITF INTERPRETATION REQUEST
JUNE 2017**

DOCUMENT TO BE INTERPRETED:

101

EDITION:

2012, 2015

BACKGROUND INFORMATION (optional):

19.7.1.6 Drills shall be conducted quarterly on each shift to familiarize facility personnel (nurses, interns, maintenance engineers, and administrative staff) with the signals and emergency action required under varied conditions.

Some AHJs are not permitting the mandated quarterly fire drills to be conducted within the same hour of a day (for example: between 6:00 am and 7:00 am) even though the quarterly fire drills are conducted three months apart from the preceding and subsequent quarterly fire drills.

The requirement to conduct drills “under varied conditions” generally has the drills being conducted in a different part of the health care building (different unit) and on a different floor level. The duties of the employees within the smoke compartment where the alarm occurs are very different than the duties of employees who are remote from the smoke compartment where the alarm occurs. Those employees who are in the smoke compartment where the alarm occurs will likely be required to perform RACE as part of the drill (if the compartment provides patient care) while those employees who are remote will perform other duties as identified in the fire response plan. In addition, it should be noted that employees often work different shifts so staff present during a subsequent quarterly drill might not be the same staff as those present during the previous or subsequent drill.

QUESTION 1 (Same day of week):

For quarterly fire drills that are conducted on the same shift, is it the intent of the Life Safety Code that the quarterly drills be permitted to be conducted on the same day of the week as the previous or subsequent quarterly drill?

QUESTION 2 (Within same hour of day):

For quarterly fire drills that are conducted on the same shift, is it the intent of the Life Safety Code that the quarterly drills be permitted to be conducted within the same hour of the day as the hour of day that the previous or subsequent quarterly drill was conducted?

QUESTION 3 (Same day of week and within same hour of day):

For quarterly fire drills that are conducted on the same shift and on the same day of the week as the previous or subsequent drill, is it the intent of the Life Safety Code that the quarterly drills are permitted to be conducted within the same hour of the day as the hour of the day that the previous or subsequent quarterly drill was conducted?

QUESTION 4 (Different day of week and within same hour of day):

For quarterly fire drills that are conducted on the same shift and on a different day of the week as the previous or subsequent drill, is it the intent of the Life Safety Code that the quarterly drills are permitted to be conducted within the same hour of the day as the hour of the day that the previous or subsequent quarterly drill was conducted?

**HITF INTERPRETATION REQUEST
JUNE 2017**

DOCUMENT TO BE INTERPRETED:

99

EDITION:

2012, 2015

BACKGROUND INFORMATION (optional):

NFPA 99, 2012 Edition:

11.3.2.3 Oxidizing gases such as oxygen and nitrous oxide shall be separated from combustibles or materials by one of the following:

- (1) Minimum distance of 6.1 m (20 ft)
- (2) Minimum distance of 1.5 m (5 ft) if the entire storage location is protected by an automatic sprinkler system designed in accordance with NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems
- (3) Enclosed cabinet of noncombustible construction having a minimum fire protection rating of 1/2 hour

NFPA 99, 2015 Edition:

11.3.2.3 Oxidizing gases such as oxygen and nitrous oxide shall be separated from combustibles or flammable materials by one of the following:

- (1) Minimum distance of 6.1 m (20 ft)
- (2) Minimum distance of 1.5 m (5 ft) if the entire storage location is protected by an automatic sprinkler system designed in accordance with NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems



QUESTION:

For cylinders that are stored in accordance with Chapter 11 of NFPA 99, is it the intent of NFPA 99 to require the protective plastic mesh that is often found on cylinders during shipment to be removed once the cylinders are received at the health care facility?