

DATE:	March 24, 2022
NUMBER:	H.5.C.1
SUBJECT:	FIRE-SMOKE DETECTION SYSTEM

PROCEDURE

I. FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

SDCJ has an automated fire alarm system. There are four ways the fire alarm system is activated:

1. Smoke Detector
2. Heat Detector
3. Low Water Pressure in the Sprinkler System
4. Manual Pull Stations

When the fire alarm system is activated, one or more fire bells will start ringing in the affected area, and two or more fire annunciator panels will activate.

The alarm system is not directly linked to the fire department. The Central Command Center Deputy must be given sufficient information regarding the fire to decide whether the fire department must be called. The Watch Commander will be consulted as soon as possible.

II. SMOKE DETECTORS

The most commonly used detection device is the smoke detector. The smoke detector is mounted on the ceiling. It is beige, cylindrical in shape, and has slots along its sides. The slots allow smoke to enter the detector, which activates the alarm. The smoke detector also has a small light on the bottom. When the detector is activated, the light will turn on and flash periodically. The flashing is the computer testing the device to make sure it's working. If the detector does not function properly, a trouble alarm will activate on the fire annunciator panel.

The smoke detectors are wired together in groups. If one detector is activated, the fire annunciator will not show which particular device is activated but will show that one detector in the group has activated. The smoke detectors are grouped together by area. For example, the 4C dayroom is one area and the 8A bunk area is another. The detector activated in each group can be identified by checking the status of the red light on the detector. The normal (standby) condition of the red light is flashing/blinking; a steady red light indicates activation.

III. HEAT DETECTORS

Heat detectors are used in areas where it would be impractical to use smoke detectors. Incarcerated person restrooms, staff restrooms and the kitchen area use heat detectors.

VI. LOW WATER PRESSURE DETECTOR IN THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM

There is a fire sprinkler system on all floors. When a fire sprinkler goes off, water rushes through the sprinkler and thus decreases the water pressure, which will set off an alarm.

V. PULL STATION

Pull stations are small red boxes mounted on the wall in various locations. When the handle is pulled, the fire alarm will be activated. Pulling the handle also breaks a glass rod inside the pull station, which must be replaced by the facility services maintenance staff.

VI. FIRE ANNUNCIATOR PANELS

Fire annunciator panels are located in the following locations:

- Each Deputy Control Station
- Medical Nurses Station
- Central Command Center

Fire annunciator panels show the location of the fire. Depending upon the fire annunciator, you will be told either the general or specific location of the fire.

VII. FIRE ALARM PANELS

Safety/Security Interests - 7922.000

VIII. PROCEDURE TO SILENCE/RESET ALARMS

If a fire alarm sounds, follow emergency procedures for a fire. When you have determined that there is no fire, or the fire is over, you need to reset the alarm system. **Safety/Security Interests - 7922.000**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] If facility maintenance personnel are available, they can be called to reset the alarm. Maintenance will be able to locate and correct any failures in the system.