



Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Fire Watch Checklist and Requirements

A. Important Definitions and Contacts

Gulf Shores Code of Ordinances and Section 901 of the 2018 International Fire Code

1. Impairment:

When a fire protection system is fully or partially out of service it is known by the fire code as impairment.

2. Impairment Coordinator:

The person responsible for maintaining the building fire protection systems.

3. Building Owners Responsibility:

The building owner shall assign an impairment coordinator to comply with the requirements of Section 901 of the 2018 International Fire Code. In the absence of a specific designee the owner shall be the impairment coordinator.

Fire Department Contact: Gulf Shores Fire Department Admin line: 251-968-7422; Central Dispatch: 251-947-4911
George F. Surry, Fire Code Official, O: (251) 968-7422; Direct/Text: (251) 269-7996; gsurry@gulfshoresal.gov

B. Impairment Checklist (Required)

- Emergency Impairment: (Unplanned Impairment Dial 911 to Report Emergencies)
Preplanned Impairment: (Planned Impairment)
The fire dept. and the fire code official shall be notified immediately and when the system is returned to service.
The building owner shall assign an impairment coordinator without delay.
Security services shall notify the building owner or the owners authorized representative of emergency impairments without delay so that the impairment coordinator is notified.
Fire watches shall be provided with not less than one approved means for notification of the fire department and their only duty shall be to perform constant patrols of the protected premises and keep watch for fires.
The impairment coordinator shall ensure that the approved fire watch follows the Alabama Department of Insurance SFMO Fire Watch procedures and records are kept for inspection. (Forms can be found on their website)
Additional requirement for preplanned impairments: Preplanned impairments shall be authorized by the impairment coordinator. Before authorization is given, a designated individual shall be responsible for verifying That all of the procedures of Section 901 of the 2018 International Fire Code have been implemented.

Building Name/Address:

[Empty text box for Building Name/Address]

Impairment Description:

[Empty text box for Impairment Description]

Impairment Coordinator Name/ Address/Phone/Email: (print):

[Empty text box for Impairment Coordinator Name/ Address/Phone/Email]

The undersigned affirms that I am the [] Owner, [] Owners Authorized Agent, [] Impairment Coordinator, for the premises and that an approved fire watch shall be provided without delay and in accordance with Section 901 of the 2018 International Fire Code and the Alabama Department of Insurance SFMO Fire Watch procedures for all occupants left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire protection system has been returned to service.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____; Date: _____

ALABAMA STATE FIRE MARSHAL



FIRE WATCH PROCEDURES

Purpose:

To provide fire watch requirements for an owner or responsible party when adequate egress is not available, when demolition of a building with hazardous conditions exists, or when a fire alarm or sprinkler system are in disrepair or nonfunctional.

Requirements:

Conduct periodic patrols of the entire facility. Patrol the facility every 15 minutes if the facility has people sleeping, is an institutional facility or an occupied assembly facility. Facilities not meeting the previous conditions shall be patrolled every 30 minutes.

Duties:

- Fire watch personnel shall have access to one approved means of communication;
- Know the exact address of the property and how to report a fire or other emergency condition by calling 9-1-1.
- Fire watch personnel shall be familiar with the buildings and property and have an accepted written plan for patrolling the property.
- Fire watch personnel shall be trained in the use of fire extinguishers shall have access to all facility fire extinguishers and know their location.
- Fire watch personnel shall have knowledge of and be trained in the facilities evacuation plan in the event of a fire. They shall be able to communicate with non-English speaking residents well enough to give an evacuation order.
- Fire watch personnel shall not be permitted, while on duty, to perform any other duties.
- Fire watch personnel shall not be impaired and shall remain awake and alert at all times.
- Fire watch personnel shall keep a log of fire watch related activities. The log shall include; address of the facility, time of each patrol, name of the fire watch person, notes for other related activities performed.

Responsible Person: _____ Signature: _____ Date: __/__/____

Fire Code Official _____ Signature: _____ Date: __/__/____

