



## Texas Department of Insurance State Fire Marshal's Office

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### *Memorandum*

**To:** State Universities

**From:** Chris Connealy, State Fire Marshal *CC*

**Date:** February 04, 2016

**Subject:** Co-operation with Local Jurisdictions and Fire Departments

All state universities and agencies depend on local fire departments for emergency response and fire suppression. These local fire departments must have confidence that university buildings and fire safety systems meet the state standards and are compatible with local equipment so that the fire departments can safely and promptly respond to an emergency.

All university and agency staff involved in safety, planning, operation and maintenance must be aware of the responsibilities they have for the compatibility and use of campus or agency equipment by the local emergency responders. All third-party contractors, architects and engineers providing design and construction must assure the university or agency that the Life Safety Code and local requirements have been taken into consideration and addressed in the planning, design, construction and operation of all facilities.

Water mains, building access, fire lanes and turning radius requirements, compatibility of fire hydrants, fire department connections, fire sprinkler systems, standpipe and hose systems, alarm systems, and other emergency equipment must be designed with the operation by the local department in mind. Local fire departments should be invited to review the plans for and to participate in viewing acceptance tests of water mains and fire suppression systems.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Clint Williams, Manager of Fire Safety Inspections at (512) 417-7404. Mr. Williams' E-mail address is [clinton.williams@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:clinton.williams@tdi.texas.gov). Thank you for your corporation.