



## Fire Marshal's Alert September 2011

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### State Fire Marshal Announces Changes to Texas Insurance Code Chapter 6001 & the Fire Extinguisher Rules

The following is a synopsis of some of the substantive changes to TIC, Chptr 6001 and the Fire Extinguisher Rules. The Commissioner of Insurance, through the State Fire Marshal, has amended the Fire Extinguisher Rules in order to resolve inconsistencies within the rules, update obsolete statutory references and make changes necessary to licensing structures and procedures for the State Fire Marshal Office's implementation of the State Insurance Regulators Connection (SIRCON) licensing computer software program. The new rules took effect July 5, 2011. A complete copy can be downloaded from the SFMO fire extinguisher web site at: <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/fire/fmliexting.html> then click on "Statute and Rules."

#### TIC, Chapter 6001 (amended 9/1/2011)

- Sec. 6001.002.(5-a). **Definitions.** Definition of "Portable fire extinguisher inspection" was added to mean a monthly inspection of portables intended to ensure that portable extinguishers are in their designated location; not been activated or subject to tampering; and not have any obvious damage or other condition that might prevent proper operation.
- Sec. 6001.002.(7). **Definitions.** Definition of "Service" and "servicing" modified to remove *inspecting*.
- Sec. 6001.156.(2-a) **Activities Not Regulated by Chapter.** New section added *inspection* of portables to those activities that are not regulated

#### 28 TAC §§ 34.500 the Fire Extinguisher Rules (effective 7/5/2011)

- §34.507 **Adopted Standards.** Later editions of certain standards were adopted. NFPA 10-2010 NFPA 17-2009; NFPA 17A-2009; NFPA 96-2008. See Rules for entire list. You are responsible for obtaining a copy and installing, servicing and maintaining all portable and fixed fire extinguishing systems according to these standards. You may obtain these from NFPA at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)
- §34.510.(g) **Certificates of Registration.** Branch office certificates are now combined with the main office certificate of registration. Initial fee for a branch office is \$100 and is not prorated. Branch office certificates expire and renew on same date as registered firm's main office.
- §34.510. **Certificates of Registration.** Removed requirement to post certificate at business location.
- §34.515(b)(1)(C)&(D) **Fees.** Renewal late fees for branch offices are combined with late fees for the registered firm's main office.

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