



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------|---------------|
| Date Issued | 01-07-02 | Interpretation # | 02-001 |
| Topic | Fire Alarm Supervisory Signals (Latching vs Non-latching) | | |
| Code Section(s) | §1-5.4.3.3, NFPA 72 (1996) | | |
| Requested by | Tom Garnica FEI Enterprises, Inc. 5749 Venice Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90019 | | |

Is a fire alarm supervisory signal at the fire alarm control panel required to be non-latching and self-restoring?

No. Neither NFPA 72 [National Fire Alarm Code] nor UL Standard 864 [Control Units for Fire Protective Signaling Systems] prohibit the latching of supervisory initiating circuits. Fire alarm control panels may utilize initiating circuits for supervisory signals that are latching and require manual resetting provided that the fire alarm panel has a distinctive means of visual indication showing the restoration of the supervisory condition to normal.

The type of visual indication for the supervisory condition restoration and panel resetting instructions is required to be clearly addressed in the fire alarm control panel operation manual (e.g., text display, steady or flashing LED, etc.).

Please note that Section 13114 of the California Health and Safety Code requires that all fire alarm control panels and components be approved and listed by the State Fire Marshal.