



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	12-05-02	Interpretation #	02-045
Topic	Fire Alarms in Existing A-2.1		
Code Section(s)	Section 303.9, California Building Code (1998 ed)		
Requested by	Joel Aranaz, Fire Marshal Fresno Fire Department 450 M Street Fresno, CA 93721-3038		

1. Does an increase in the occupant load within an existing Group A, Division 2.1 occupancy mandate the installation of a fire alarm system?

Yes.

2. In an existing Group A, Division 2.1 occupancy, if a proposed addition is made consisting of another Group A, Division 2.1 that is physically separated by a corridor wall from the existing occupancy, must a fire alarm system for the new building addition be extended to the existing Group A, Division 2.1?

Yes. A fire alarm system must be extended to the existing Group A, Division 2.1 occupancy because a corridor wall does not create an area/occupancy separation or adequately create a separate building.