



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	10-14-04	Interpretation #	04-021
Topic	Notification Devices for the Hearing Impaired.		
Code Section(s)	§3505 California Building Code (2001); amendments to Section 4-4.5, NFPA 72		
Requested by	Bill Zak Zak Electronic Engineering 2675 Bechelli Ln #2 Redding, CA 96002		

The following relates to K-12 public schools. Section 3505 amendments to NFPA 72, Section 4-4.5 defines specific locations for notification devices for the hearing impaired. Item #8 indicates occupied rooms where the “ambient noise level impairs hearing of the fire alarm”. Does this include school boiler rooms?

No. However, if the ambient noise level is above 105 db, visible notification is required as per NFPA 72, Section 4-3.1.1.