



## **CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal Information Bulletin 18-002**

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### **AREA CODE OVERLAYS**

On February 9, 2017, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved an overlay that will add the new area code 279 to the 916 Area Code region. Under the overlay plan, current 916 Area Code customers can keep their numbers, but as of February 10, 2018, all calls made from the 916 Area Code must be dialed using 1 + area code + 7-digit telephone number. This means that all calls in the 916 Area Code that are currently dialed with 7-digits will need to be dialed using 1 + area code + 7-digit telephone number

- On August 12, 2017, customers in the 916 Area Code may begin using the new 1 + 10-digit dialing procedure (1 + area code + telephone number) when placing calls. If customers forget to use the new dialing procedure and just dial the seven-digit telephone number, calls will still be completed until February 10, 2018.
- Beginning February 10, 2018, callers must use the new 1 + 10-digit dialing procedure for all calls. After this date, if customers do not use the new dialing procedure, their calls will not be completed and a recording will instruct them to hang up and dial again.
- Beginning March 10, 2018, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the 279-area code.

The overlay will primarily affect the greater Sacramento area, which includes parts of El Dorado, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, Placer, and Sacramento Counties.

During implementation of the area code overlay, businesses with telephone numbers with the 916 and 279 area codes should do the following:

- Notify alarm service providers of all appropriate area code + telephone number(s) so alarm service records and equipment can be updated as needed.
- Work with alarm service providers to test fire alarm equipment to determine if it can dial and receive 1 + area code + telephone number. Questions regarding changes in fire alarm equipment should be directed to fire alarm equipment vendors.

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- Reprogram any automatic dialing equipment to dial 1 + area code + telephone number, including the following: life safety systems and medical monitoring devices, alarm and security systems, call forwarding settings and other similar services or equipment.

Fire alarm systems that communicate to a supervising station by means of telephone lines may be affected by this 916 Area Code overlay plan. Fire alarm systems using Digital Alarm Communicator Transmission (DACT) shall comply with the applicable edition of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code Sections: 10.20 Impairments, 26.3.8.4 Trouble Signals, 26.6.4.1.4 Transmission Channels, and 26.6.4.1.5 DACT Transmission Means.

**2016 California Fire Code, Chapter 9, Section 901.7 Systems Out of Service.** Where a required fire protection system is out of service, the fire department and the fire code official shall be notified immediately and where required by the fire code official, the building shall be either evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all occupants left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire protection system has been returned to service. Where utilized, fire watches shall be provided with not less than one approved means for notification of the fire department and their only duty shall be to perform constant patrols of the protected premises and keep watch for fires.

**In addition to the 916 Area Code overlay, the following Area Code overlays in Southern California will be taking place as follows:**

**619 Area Code:** Beginning April 2018, affecting the 619 and 858 in the San Diego region. The overlay in this area will add the 858 area code to the 619 area code region. All customers with existing 619 and 858 numbers will retain their current telephone numbers; however, customers must dial 1 plus the three-digit area code for all calls to and from telephone numbers with the 619 and 858 area codes. Customers can begin to use this new dialing procedure (1+10-digit dialing) starting in October 2017 (the permissive dialing period), and must use the new dialing procedure at the start of the mandatory dialing period in April 2018.

**805 Area Code:** Beginning on June 2, 2018, the 820 area code will be added the 805 area code region, which serves small portions of Monterey and Kern Counties and most of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties. Customers with the 805 and 820 area codes must dial "1" plus the three-digit area code for all calls from telephone numbers with the 805 and 820 area codes. Customers in the 805 area code may begin to use this new dialing procedure on December 1, 2017. Customers may begin dialing 1+ 10-digit telephone number when making all local calls. The new dialing procedure will become mandatory for all residential and business customers beginning May 2018.