

**RESCINDED BY BUILDINGS  
BULLETIN 2024-002**



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
60 HUDSON STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10013

CHARLES M SMITH, Jr. R.A.. Commissioner

November 6, 1987

**GEORGE E. BERGER, P.E.**  
Assistant Commissioner  
Building Construction

New York Fire Department  
Chief Joseph DeMeo  
250 Livingston Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201

RE: Requirements of Section 27-972(j)(2)  
in Existing Low Rise Hotels

Dear Chief DeMeo:

Local Law 16/1984 requires modified Class J-1 fire alarm and communication system in the existing hotels less than seventy-five feet and containing thirty or more rooms.

Subparagraph c of the above referenced section requires that when a fire alarm is activated it shall automatically transmit the signal to the Fire Department via a central station connection of a franchised operating company. This law also states that an approved existing interior fire alarm shall be acceptable provided it meets the aforementioned requirements.

Therefore, this Department's interpretation regarding the fire alarm requirements in existing low rise hotels containing 30 or more rooms with or without an existing approved interior fire alarm is that these buildings require modified Class J-1 fire alarm and communication system.

Any existing hotel building which does not have an interior fire alarm may be violating the requirements of the Building Code and is subject to a violation and shall be required to install an interior fire alarm.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George E. Berger".

George E. Berger, P.E.  
Assistant Commissioner

GEB:NTP:lg