TO: Distribution

FROM: Nalin T. Patel, P.E.
Director of Local Law Review

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SUBJECT: Clarification of the Requirements of Smoke Detectors for Elevator Recall - Rule 211.3b of RS 18-1

Reference Standard RS 18-1 adopted by the Board of Standards and Appeals on March 12, 1991 (Cal #11-91 BCR) requires cross-zoning of smoke detectors in elevator lobbies and elevator machine rooms to recall elevators to the designated floor or to the sky lobby floor.

Section 211.3b(2) requires cross-zoning of two smoke detectors to initiate elevator recall.

Section 211.3b(2)(a) limits the spacing of the two detectors required for cross-zoning to the width of the hoistway, but not to exceed ten (10) feet.

Where the width of the hoistway exceeds ten (10) feet, the spacing of the detectors shall be ten (10) feet. Therefore, the spacing of the detectors is either the width of the hoistway or ten (10) feet, whichever is less.

Section 211.3b(2)(b) limits the spacing of the two detectors required for cross-zoning to the center lines of the end elevators, but not to exceed twenty (20) feet.
Where the distance of the center lines of the end elevators exceeds twenty (20) feet, the spacing of the detectors shall be twenty (20) feet. Therefore, the spacing of the detectors is either the distance of the center lines of the end elevators or twenty (20) feet, whichever is less.

Section 211.3b(6)(c)(2) - For compliance with this section, a small elevator machine room requiring only one smoke detector per NFPA No. 72 E, a minimum of two (2) smoke detectors shall be provided.