AN ACT Relating to regulating fire alarm systems; adding a new chapter to Title 19 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. DEFINITIONS. The following words or terms shall have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) "Committee" means the fire alarm advisory committee. The advisory committee consists of eight members and shall be advisory to the state director of fire protection. Membership is as follows: Two members must be fire alarm contractors, one member must be a fire alarm certificate of competency member, one member must be a certified fire alarm technician, one member must be an active member of the Washington state association of fire chiefs, one member must be an active member of the Washington state fire marshals association, one member must be a building or electrical code official who is professionally competent in fire alarm system plan review and inspection, and one member must be a member of the public not associated with the fire alarm industry. The state director of fire protection is a nonvoting member.
(2) "Director of fire protection" means the officer appointed under RCW 43.43.938.

(3) "Fire alarm certificate of competency holder" or "certificate of competency holder" means an individual who holds a national institute for certification in engineering technologies level 2 fire alarm technician classification certification, or has satisfactorily met the qualifications and has received a certificate of competency from the state director of fire protection under this chapter.

(4) "Fire alarm system contractor" means a person or organization that offers to undertake the preparation of technical drawings, design, sale, construction, addition, alteration, modification, repair, test, inspection, service, or maintenance of a fire alarm system, its parts or related equipment, or any part of such a system.

(5) "Fire alarm system technician" means a person who has met the qualification requirements adopted by rule, and has been certified to engage in installing, connecting, altering, repairing, or adding to a fire alarm system or a journeyman electrician who has successfully completed the fire alarm training element.

(6) "Fire alarm system trainee" means a person who is learning the fire alarm installation trade and may work in the fire alarm trade if under the direct supervision of a certified fire alarm system technician. All individuals learning the fire alarm trade shall obtain a fire alarm training certificate from the state director of fire protection. An annual fee shall be charged. The amount of the fee shall be set by rule. The holder of the fire alarm training certificate shall renew the certificate annually. At the time of renewal, the holder shall provide the state director of fire protection with an accurate list of the training certificate holder’s employers in the fire alarm industry for the previous year, and the number of hours worked for each employer. Any person who has been issued a fire alarm training certificate, may work under the direct supervision and control of a fire alarm system technician. Supervision shall consist of the person being on the same job site. A certified fire alarm system technician shall be on the same job as the trainee for one hundred percent of each working day. The ratio of fire alarm trainees to certified fire alarm system technicians on a job site shall not be more than two trainees to each fire alarm system technician. The fire alarm trainee shall at all times carry an identification card containing identifying information as prescribed by the state director of fire protection.
protection and shall be produced on demand by a state, city, or county official. The state director of fire protection shall supply this card at a fee which shall be related to the cost of producing the card.

(7) "Fire alarm system" means a system or portion of a combination system consisting of components and circuits arranged to monitor and annunci ate the status of fire alarm or supervisory signal-initiating devices and to initiate the appropriate response to those signals as set forth in national fire protection association 72 - 1996.

(8) "Fire alarm system contractor’s license" means the license issued by the state director of fire protection to a fire alarm system contractor, upon an application being approved, the fee being paid, the required bond being secured, and the satisfactory completion of the requirements of this chapter. The license shall be issued in the name of the fire alarm system contractor with the name or names of the certificate of competency holder noted thereon.

(9) "General electrical contractor license" means the license issued under RCW 19.28.041 to grant the holder the right to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to carry electric current, and installing or maintaining equipment, or installing or maintaining material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated by electric current.

(10) "Inspection" means a visual examination of a fire alarm system or portion of the system to verify that the system appears to be in operating condition and is free from physical damage and complies with the applicable statutes and regulations adopted by the state director of fire protection.

(11) "Installation" means the initial placement of fire alarm system equipment or the extension, modification, or alteration of equipment or software after the initial placement.

(12) "Journeyman electrician" means a person who has been issued a journeyman electrician certificate of competency by the state department of labor and industries.

(13) "Limited fire alarm certificate of competency holder" means a person with limited certification restricted to working on premises or that part of the premises, actually owned or leased, and occupied by, the limited certificate holder’s employer. A limited fire alarm certificate of competency holder is limited to working on the properties owned or leased by the limited fire alarm certificate of competency holder’s employer, to the level of competence, as certified
and documented to the fire protection bureau by the limited certificate holder’s employer.

(14) "Maintenance" means to maintain in the condition of repair that provides performance as originally planned.

(15) "Organization" means a corporation, partnership, firm, or other business association; governmental entity; or any other legal or commercial entity.

(16) "Person" means a natural person, including an owner, manager, partner, officer, employee, or occupant.

(17) "Service" means to repair.

(18) "Specialty electrical contractor license" means the license issued under RCW 19.28.041 to grant the holder a limited right to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or maintaining wires or equipment to carry electrical current, and installing or maintaining equipment, or installing or maintaining material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated by electric current as expressly allowed by the license.

(18) "Testing" means periodic inspections and tests required to keep the fire alarm system and its component parts in an operative condition at all times as set forth in national fire protection association 72 - 1996.

NEW SECTION.  Sec. 2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT LICENSES AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. A municipality or county may not enact an order, ordinance, rule, or regulation requiring a fire alarm system contractor to obtain a fire alarm contractor license from the municipality or county. However, a municipality or county or the state may require a fire alarm system contractor to obtain a permit and pay a fee for the installation of a fire alarm system and require the installation of such systems to conform with the building code, fire code, local amendments, or other construction requirements of the municipality or county, but may not impose financial responsibility requirements other than proof of a valid license.

NEW SECTION.  Sec. 3. EXEMPTIONS FROM CHAPTER. This chapter does not apply to:

(1) United States, state, and local government employees; building officials, fire marshals, or fire inspectors; or insurance inspectors when acting in their official capacities;
A person or organization acting under court order;
A person or organization that sells or supplies products or materials to a licensed fire alarm system contractor;
A registered professional fire protection engineer acting solely in a professional capacity; or
An owner or occupant of a single-family residence performing his or her own installation in that residence.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. STATE DIRECTOR OF FIRE PROTECTION—DUTIES.
(1) This chapter shall be administered by the state director of fire protection.
(2) The state director of fire protection has the authority and the duty to establish necessary rules for:
   (a) The administration and enforcement of this chapter;
   (b) Setting reasonable fees for licenses, certificates, testing, plan review, inspection, and other aspects necessary for the administration of this chapter;
   (c) Conducting investigations of complaints to determine if any infractions of this chapter or the regulations developed under this chapter have occurred;
   (d) Working with the fire alarm advisory board consisting of fire alarm system contractors and other related officials;
   (e) Assigning a certificate number to each certificate of competency holder; and
   (f) Adopting rules necessary to implement and administer a program which requires the affixation of a seal any time a fire alarm system is designed, installed, maintained, inspected, or tested. The seal shall include the certificate number of the certificate of competency holder who, in whole or in part, designed, installed, maintained, inspected, or tested the fire alarm system.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. CONTRACTOR LICENSE. (1) To become a licensed fire alarm system contractor under this chapter, a person or firm must comply with the following requirements of the state director of fire protection. The contractor shall:
   (a) Be or have in his or her full-time employ a holder of a valid certificate of competency;
   (b) Comply with the minimum insurance requirements of this chapter;
(c) Make application to the state director of fire protection for a license and pay the fees required;
(d) Show evidence of the required bond being held;
(e) Post each license issued under this chapter in a conspicuous place in the fire alarm system contractor’s place of business; and
(f) Prominently display the license number on all bids, advertisements, proposals, offers, and installation drawings for fire alarm systems.

(2)(a) If the certificate of competency holder leaves the employment of the fire alarm system contractor, the contractor shall notify the state director of fire protection within thirty days.
(b) If the certificate of competency holder leaves the employment of the fire alarm system contractor, the contractor has thirty days to submit a new application identifying another certificate of competency holder. If an application is not received and a new license issued, the state director of fire protection shall revoke the license of the fire alarm system contractor.

(3)(a) All licensed fire alarm system contractors shall annually, on dates and for an amount established by rule, secure from the state director of fire protection a renewal license upon payment of a fee. Application for renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by the state director of fire protection and the license holder shall furnish the information required by the director.
(b) Failure of any license holder to secure a renewal license within sixty days after the due date is sufficient cause for the state director of fire protection to suspend the license.
(c) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a license that has been suspended for failure to pay the renewal fee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. ACTIONS AGAINST FIRE ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACTORS--GROUNDS--APPEAL. (1) The state director of fire protection may refuse to issue or renew or may suspend or revoke the privilege of a licensed fire alarm system contractor to engage in the fire alarm system business or, in lieu thereof, impose monetary penalties as adopted by rule for any of the following reasons:
(a) Gross incompetence or gross negligence in the preparation of technical drawings, design, sale, construction, installation, repair,
inspection, testing, maintenance, addition, alteration, modification, or servicing of a fire alarm system or its parts or related equipment;

(b) Conviction of a felony;

(c) Fraudulent or dishonest practices while engaging in the fire alarm system business;

(d) Use of false evidence or misrepresentation in an application for a fire alarm system contractor’s license;

(e) Permitting his or her license to be used in connection with the preparation of any technical drawings which have not been prepared by him or her personally or under his or her immediate supervision or in violation of this chapter; or

(f) Knowingly violating this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter.

(2) The state director of fire protection shall permanently revoke the license of a fire alarm system contractor who engages in the fire alarm system business while suspended.

(3) The state director of fire protection has the power, in case of serious noncompliance with this chapter, to revoke or suspend for a period determined by the director any fire alarm system contractor’s license issued under this chapter. The state director of fire protection shall notify the fire alarm system contractor by certified mail. A revocation or suspension is effective twenty days after the holder receives the notice. An appeal may be filed within twenty days after notice of the revocation or suspension is given by certified mail sent to the address of the holder of the fire alarm system contractor’s license as shown on the application for the fire alarm system contractor’s license, and shall be effected by filing a written notice of appeal with the state director of fire protection. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY HOLDER. (1) Every applicant for a certificate of competency shall fulfill the requirements established by the state director of fire protection.

(2) To become a certificate of competency holder under this chapter, an applicant must have successfully passed an examination administered by the state director of fire protection. A certificate of competency holder can satisfy this examination requirement by presenting a copy of his or her current certificate from the national institute for certification in engineering technologies showing that
the applicant has achieved the classification of fire alarm systems technician level 2. This examination requirement is mandatory except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(3) All bids, advertisements, proposals, offers, installation drawings, final acceptance test forms, and inspection or testing forms for fire alarm systems must prominently display the fire alarm system contractor’s certificate of competency holder’s stamp.

(4) The fire alarm certificate of competency holder shall at all times carry an identification card containing identifying information as prescribed by the state director of fire protection and shall be produced on demand by a state, city, or county fire official. The state director of fire protection shall supply this card at a fee which is related to the cost of producing the card.

(5) The fire alarm system contractor’s certificate of competency holder must be present during the final acceptance tests of fire alarm systems designed by the holder.

(6) The initial certificate of competency or license fee shall be prorated based upon the portion of the year the certificate of competency or license is in effect, prior to renewal on January 1st.

(7) In no case shall a certificate of competency holder be employed full time by more than one fire alarm system contractor.

(8) If the certificate of competency holder leaves the employment of the fire alarm system contractor, the certificate of competency holder shall notify the state director of fire protection within thirty days.

(9) A certificate of competency or license issued under this chapter is not transferable.

(10) All certificate of competency holders shall annually, on dates and for an amount established by rule, secure from the state director of fire protection a renewal certificate of competency upon payment of a fee. Application for renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by the state director of fire protection and the certificate holder shall furnish the information required by the director.

(11) Failure of any certificate of competency holder to secure a renewal certificate of competency within sixty days after the due date is sufficient cause for the state director of fire protection to suspend the certificate of competency.

(12) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a
certificate of competency that has been suspended for failure to pay
the renewal fee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. EXCEPTION TO THE REQUIRED CERTIFICATE OF
COMPETENCY PERSONAL. For one year after the effective date of this
section a company may list at least one individual attempting to
qualify for a certificate of competency. An individual has one year to
obtain this certificate and comply with this chapter. If after one
year the company is unable to provide for the requirement of
certificate of competency holder, all operations pertaining to the
installation of fire alarm system contracting shall cease.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT OF CERTIFICATE OF
COMPETENCY. A certificate of competency holder may voluntarily
surrender the certificate of competency to the state director of fire
protection and be relieved of the annual renewal fee. After
surrendering the certificate of competency, he or she may not be known
as a certificate of competency holder and shall cease operations.
Within two years from the time of surrender of the certificate of
competency, he or she may qualify for a certificate of competency,
without examination, by the payment of the required fee. If two or
more years have elapsed, he or she must apply as a new applicant.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. ACTIONS AGAINST CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY
HOLDER--GROUNDS--APPEAL. (1) The state director of fire protection may
refuse to issue or renew or may suspend or revoke the privilege of a
fire alarm certificate of competency holder to engage in the fire alarm
system business or, in lieu thereof, impose monetary penalties as
adopted by rule for any of the following reasons:
(a) Gross incompetence or gross negligence in the preparation of
technical drawings, design, sale, construction, installation, repair,
inspection, testing, maintenance, addition, alteration, modification,
or servicing of a fire alarm system or its parts or related equipment;
(b) Conviction of a felony;
(c) Fraudulent or dishonest practices while engaging in the fire
alarm system business;
(d) Use of false evidence or misrepresentation in an application
for a license or certificate of competency;
(e) Permitting his or her license to be used in connection with the preparation of any technical drawings which have not been prepared by him or her personally or under his or her immediate supervision or in violation of this chapter; or

(f) Knowingly violating this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter.

(2) The state director of fire protection shall permanently revoke the license of a certificate of competency holder who engages in the fire alarm system business while the certificate of competency is suspended.

(3) The state director of fire protection has the power, in case of serious noncompliance with this chapter, to revoke or suspend for a period determined by the director any fire alarm certificate of competency issued under this chapter. The state director of fire protection shall notify the certificate of competency holder by certified mail. A revocation or suspension is effective twenty days after the holder receives the notice. Any revocation or suspension is subject to review by an appeal to the board. The filing of an appeal stays the effect of a revocation or suspension until the board makes its decision. The appeal shall be filed within twenty days after notice of the revocation or suspension is given by certified mail sent to the address of the holder of the license or certificate as shown on the application for the license or certificate of competency holder, and shall be effected by filing a written notice of appeal with the state director of fire protection, accompanied by a certified check for two hundred dollars, which shall be returned to the holder of the license or certificate of competency if the decision of the agency is not sustained by the board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. CERTIFIED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM TECHNICIAN.

(1) Every applicant for certification as a fire alarm system technician shall fulfill the requirements established by the state director of fire protection.

(2) To become a certified fire alarm system technician under this chapter, an applicant must have satisfactorily passed an examination administered by the state director of fire protection. A fire alarm system technician can satisfy the examination requirement by presenting a copy of his or her current certificate from the national institute
for certification in engineering technologies showing that the applicant has achieved the classification of fire alarm systems technician level 2. This examination requirement is mandatory except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(3) The certified fire alarm system technician shall at all times carry an identification card containing identifying information as prescribed by the state director of fire protection and shall be produced on demand by a state, city, or county fire official. The state director of fire protection shall supply this card at a fee which is related to the cost of producing the card.

(4) A fire alarm system technician certification issued under this chapter is not transferable.

(5) All certified fire alarm system technicians that desire to continue shall annually, on dates and for an amount established by rule, secure from the state director of fire protection a renewal fire alarm system technician certificate upon payment of a fee. Application for renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by the state director of fire protection and the certificate holder shall furnish the information required by the director.

(6) Failure of any fire alarm system technician certificate holder to secure a renewal certificate of competency within sixty days after the due date is sufficient cause for the state director of fire protection to suspend the fire alarm system technician certificate.

(7) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a fire alarm system technician certificate that has been suspended for failure to pay the renewal fee.

(8) For one year after the effective date of this section a company may list individuals attempting to qualify for a fire alarm system technician certificate with the director of fire protection. These individuals have one year to obtain this certificate and comply with this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEM TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATE. A fire alarm system technician certificate holder may voluntarily surrender a fire alarm system technician certificate to the state director of fire protection and be relieved of the annual renewal fee. After surrendering the fire alarm system technician certificate, he or she may not be known as a
certified fire alarm system technician and shall cease operations.
Within two years from the time of surrender of the fire alarm system
technician certificate, he or she may qualify for a fire alarm system
technician certificate, without examination, by the payment of the
required fee. If two or more years have elapsed, he or she must apply
as a new applicant.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. FIRE ALARM SYSTEM TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATE
HOLDER--GROUNDS--APPEAL. (1) The state director of fire protection may
refuse to issue or renew or may suspend or revoke the privilege of a
fire alarm system technician certificate holder to engage in the fire
alarm system business or, in lieu thereof, impose monetary penalties as
adopted by rule for any of the following reasons:
(a) Gross incompetence or gross negligence in the construction,
installation, repair, inspection, testing, maintenance, addition,
alteration, modification, or servicing of a fire alarm system or its
parts or related equipment;
(b) Conviction of a felony;
(c) Fraudulent or dishonest practices while engaging in the fire
alarm system business;
(d) Use of false evidence or misrepresentation in an application
for a license or fire alarm system technician certificate; or
(e) Knowingly violating this chapter or a rule adopted under this
chapter.
(2) The state director of fire protection shall permanently revoke
the certificate of a fire alarm system technician who engages in the
fire alarm system business while the fire alarm system technician
certificate is suspended.
(3) The state director of fire protection has the power, in case of
serious noncompliance with this chapter, to revoke or suspend for a
period determined by the director any fire alarm system technician
certificate issued under this chapter. The state director of fire
protection shall notify the fire alarm system technician certificate
holder by certified mail. A revocation or suspension is effective
twenty days after the holder receives the notice. Any revocation or
suspension is subject to review by an appeal to the board. The filing
of an appeal stays the effect of a revocation or suspension until the
board makes its decision. The appeal shall be filed within twenty days
after notice of the revocation or suspension is given by certified mail
sent to the address of the holder of the license or certificate as shown on the application for the license or fire alarm system technician certificate, and shall be effected by filing a written notice of appeal with the state director of fire protection, accompanied by a certified check for two hundred dollars, which shall be returned to the holder of the license or fire alarm system technician certificate if the decision of the agency is not sustained by the board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. FIRE ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACTOR’S LICENSE FUND CREATED. The fire alarm system contractor’s license fund is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from license and certificate fees and charges or from the money generated by the rules and local regulations adopted under this chapter shall be deposited into the fund. Expenditures from the fund may be used only for purposes authorized under this chapter. Only the state director of fire protection, or the director’s designee, may authorize expenditures from the fund. The fund is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for expenditures.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATION--APPLICATION TO STATE AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS. (1) This chapter does not limit the power of a municipality, county, or the state to regulate the quality and character of work performed by contractors through a system of permits, fees, and inspections that are designed to assure compliance with and aid in the implementation of state and local building laws or to enforce other local laws for the protection of the public health and safety. This chapter does not limit the power of the municipality, county, or the state to adopt any system of permits requiring submission for approval by the municipality, county, or the state of technical drawings and specifications for work to be performed by contractors before commencement of the work. The official authorized to issue approval must require evidence of a valid fire alarm system contractor’s license.

(2) This chapter applies to any fire alarm system contractor performing work for any municipality, county, or the state. Officials of any municipality, county, or the state are required to determine compliance with this chapter before awarding any contracts for the
NEW SECTION.  Sec. 16. SURETY BOND--SECURITY DEPOSIT--VENUE AND
TIME LIMIT FOR ACTIONS UPON BONDS--LIMIT OF LIABILITY OF SURETY--
PAYMENT OF CLAIMS. (1) Before granting a license under this chapter, the
director of fire protection shall require that the applicant file with the state
director of fire protection a surety bond issued by a surety insurer who meets
the requirements of chapter 48.28 RCW in a form acceptable to the director of
fire protection running to the state of Washington in the penal sum of four
thousand dollars. The bond shall be conditioned that the applicant will pay all
purchasers of fire alarm systems with whom the applicant has a contract for the applicant
to install, inspect, maintain, or service a fire alarm system, and who
have obtained a judgment against the applicant for the breach of such a
contract. The term "purchaser" means an owner of property who has entered
into a contract for the installation of a fire alarm system on that property, or a contractor who contracts to install, inspect,
maintain, or service such a system with an owner of property and
subcontracts the work to the applicant. No other person, including, but not limited to, persons who supply labor, materials, or rental equipment to the applicant, has any rights against the bond.

(2) In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the applicant may file with the director of fire protection a deposit consisting of cash or other security acceptable to the director of fire protection in an amount equal to the penal sum to the required bond. The director of fire protection may adopt rules necessary for the proper administration of the security.

(3) Before granting renewal of a fire alarm system contractor’s license to any applicant, the director of fire protection shall require that the applicant file with the director satisfactory evidence that the surety bond or cash deposit is in full force.

(4) Any purchaser of a fire alarm system having a claim against the license for the breach of a contract for the licensee to install, inspect, maintain, or service a fire alarm system may bring suit upon such bond in superior court of the county in which the work was done or of any county in which jurisdiction of the license may be had. Any such action must be brought not later than one year after the
expiration of the licensee’s license or renewal license then in effect at the time of the alleged breach of contract.

(5) The bond shall be considered one continuous obligation, and the surety upon the bond shall not be liable in aggregate or cumulative amount exceeding four thousand dollars regardless of the number of years the bond is in effect, or whether it is reinstated, renewed, reissued, or otherwise continued, and regardless of the year in which any claim accrued. The bond shall not be liable for any liability of the licensee for tortuous acts, whether or not such liability is imposed by statute or common law, or is imposed by contract. The bond shall not be a substitute or supplemental to any liability or other insurance required by law or by the contract.

(6) If the surety desires to make payment without awaiting court action against it, the amount of the bond shall be reduced to the extent of any payment made by the surety in good faith under the bond. Any payment shall be based on final judgments received by the surety.

(7) Claims against the bond shall be satisfied from the bond in the following order:

(a) Claims by a purchase of a fire alarm system for the breach of a contract for the licensee to install, inspect, maintain, or service a fire alarm system;

(b) Any court costs, interest, and attorneys’ fees the plaintiff may be entitled to recover by contract, statute, or court rule. A condition precedent to the surety being liable to any claimant is a final judgment against the licensee, unless the surety desires to make payment without awaiting court action. In the event of a dispute regarding the apportionment of the bond proceeds among claimants, the surety may bring an action for interpleader against all claimants upon the bond.

(8) Any purchaser of a fire alarm system having an unsatisfied final judgment against the licensee for the breach of a contract for the licensee to install, inspect, maintain, or service a fire alarm system may execute upon the security held by the director of fire protection by serving a certified copy of the unsatisfied final judgment by registered or certified mail upon the director within one year of the date of entry of such judgment. Upon the receipt of service of such certified copy, the director shall pay or order paid from the deposit, through the registry of the court which rendered judgment, towards the amount of the unsatisfied judgment. The priority

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of payment by the director shall be the order of receipt by the
director, but the director shall have no liability for payment in
excess of the amount of the deposit.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. UNLICENSED OPERATIONS--PENALTY. Any person
who offers to contract for the preparation of technical drawings, sale,
installation, repair, construction, inspection, testing, maintenance,
addition, alteration, design, modification, or servicing of a fire
alarm system or its parts or related equipment in any occupancy, except
an owner-occupied single-family dwelling, without first obtaining a
fire alarm system contractor’s license from the state of Washington, is
guilty of a civil offense. This section does not create any criminal
liability for a prime contractor or an owner of an occupancy unless it
is proved that the prime contractor or owner had actual knowledge of an
illegal construction, installation, or maintenance of a fire alarm
system by a fire alarm system contractor.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. ENFORCEMENT--CIVIL PROCEEDINGS. Civil
proceedings to enforce this chapter may be brought by the attorney
general or the prosecuting attorney of any county where a violation
occurs on his or her own motion or at the request of the state director
of fire protection.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 19. PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION. This chapter
applies prospectively only and not retroactively. A municipal or
county order, ordinance, rule, or regulation that is in effect on the
effective date of this section is not invalid because of the provisions
of this chapter. This chapter does not prohibit municipalities or
counties from adopting stricter guidelines that will assure the proper
installation of fire alarm systems within their jurisdictions.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 20. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this act
or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. Captions used in this act are not any part
of the law.
NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. Sections 1 through 21 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 19 RCW.