

To Whom It May Concern:

In July 2018 the City of Springfield Fire Department adopted the 2018 International Fire Code (IFC). Section 901.6 of the IFC is specific to fire protection systems, stating:

“Fire detection and alarm systems, emergency alarm systems, gas detection systems, fire-extinguishing systems, mechanical smoke exhaust systems and smoke and heat vents to be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be replaced or repaired where defective...”

In February 2019, Springfield City Council approved an amendment to the IFC which mandates fire protection system inspection reports be submitted to the Fire Department through a third-party inspection reporting system. That system is known as “The Compliance Engine” (TCE) by Brycer.

With this implementation, Inspection, Testing and Maintenance (ITM) vendors submit testing reports through the TCE web-based portal, and a fee is charged for each report submitted. The TCE program provides notification to owners and occupants of upcoming required testing and provides a summary of necessary repairs identified during the inspection and testing process. The process below is what you should expect to see occur depending upon the status of your system.

Inspection – Green Tag: Fire protection system operating with no deficiencies	
Inspection report submitted to Fire Department by ITM vendor and reviewed by SFD Personnel	
37 days before annual inspection deadline	Annual inspection notice sent to owner/occupant
30 Days Past Due	Past Due inspection notice sent to owner/occupant
60 Days Past Due	Second Past Due notice sent to owner/occupant
60 Days Past Due	TCE initiates phone calls to owner/occupant
Inspection – Yellow Tag: Fire protection system operating with identified deficiencies	
Inspection report submitted to Fire Department by ITM vendor and reviewed by SFD Personnel	
Next Business Day	TCE generates notice to owner/occupant summarizing identified deficiencies
45 days deficient	TCE initiates phone calls to owner/occupant with uncorrected deficiencies
Every 30 days	TCE calls continue to owner/occupant with uncorrected deficiencies
Inspection – Red Tag: Significant impairments prevent system from functioning properly.	
ITM Vendor notifies the fire department immediately if a red inspection tag is issued. Fire Marshal follows up with owner/occupant to establish a fire watch and discuss a corrective action plan for deficiencies which must be addressed immediately.	
Inspection Report submitted to Fire Department by ITM vendor	
Next Business Day	TCE generates notice to owner/occupant summarizing identified deficiencies
45 days deficient	TCE initiates phone calls to owner/occupant with uncorrected deficiencies
Every 30 days	TCE phone calls continue to owner/occupant with uncorrected deficiencies

The process noted above provides the Fire Department with the ability to effectively track testing and system status for critical life safety fire protection systems and ensure compliance with the requirements of the fire code. The fire protection systems included in the TCE are fire sprinklers, fire standpipes, fire alarms, fire pumps and private fire hydrants. Having compliant fire protection systems results in a safer community.

All ITM vendors providing services within the City of Springfield must be registered with the Springfield Fire Department. Inspections completed by a vendor not registered are invalid. The goal of the Springfield Fire Department is to ensure our community and its members are safe from threat of fire. Ensuring that the fire protection systems throughout the City are well maintained and function properly in the event of an emergency is critical to reaching this goal. A list of ITM vendors registered with the Springfield Fire Department can be found by visiting [https://www.springfieldmo.gov/Fire Department/Codes, Permits & Inspections](https://www.springfieldmo.gov/FireDepartment/Codes,Permits&Inspections)

We want to ensure that our partners in the business community are knowledgeable of TCE and the requirements of the fire code, and that enforcement of the fire code specific to fire protection systems should be expected.

Should you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact Kevin Trogdon, Division Chief of Community Risk Reduction at (417)874-2300

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Pennington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Pennington
Fire Chief