

State of Vermont - Dept. of Labor & Industry Fire Prevention Division

Tampering With Smoke Detectors Is Illegal



Having smoke detectors in rental-housing is Vermont law. Smoke detectors are the single most important means of preventing apartment fire fatalities. Smoke detectors provide an early warning signal, allowing occupants to escape a deadly smoke condition. Tampering with smoke detector operation has led to many injuries and fatalities in Vermont.

Here is the Law:

No person shall render any portable or fixed fire extinguishing system or device or any fire warning system (smoke detectors) inoperative. (1997 NFPA 1 Fire Prevention Code, Section 1-14.1) NFPA – National Fire Protection Association.

Violation of this section is subject to citation and fines up to \$1,000 for each violation, which would be issued to the person committing the violation. (21 VSA § 254, Subchapter 7 Fire Prevention & Safety)