



The Crusade Against

Fire Deaths

Exposing Fire Regulatory Corruption for Over 50 Years

For evil to flourish, it only requires
good men to do nothing.
Simon Wiesenthal

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For more than fifty years Richard Patton, fire protection engineer, has battled a corrupt fire regulatory system to provide real solutions to the fire problem. The primary reason for most fire deaths in America is a fire code system structured, not to reduce fire, but rather to profit from fire. Tens of thousands of dead and horribly burned children have been the result.



April 5, 2015

Governor Jerry Brown
California State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S DECEPTIONS KILLS CHILDREN**

Dear Governor Brown:

Somebody is deceiving the public, the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) or your state fire marshal. But I have no doubt that your fire marshal is the deceiver. I enclose a copy of a letter from Arthur Lee of the CPSC to Paul E. Lloret of Underwriters' Laboratories (UL). Within that letter there is an admission that the ionization type so-called smoke detector has in excess of a 50% failure rate. Governor Brown, it does not take a rocket scientist to realize that when a device installed to protect children from a house fires fails to warn more often than not, that is a completely unacceptable condition, a very deadly condition. **Surely, Governor Brown, you cannot justify "protecting" children from horrific deaths and injuries by fire with a device that is so incredibly unreliable that it has in excess of a 50% failure rate.**

I also enclose a copy of an article that appeared within the September 25, 1977 Business Week magazine entitled, *The Fiery Debate Over Smoke-Alarm Efficiency*". You may be surprised to see that a high level executive of UL, George Saunders, freely admitted back then that the testing of the ionization devices was seriously flawed. But he claimed that the testing would be corrected. The corrections were never made. Therefore a defective "life saving device" continued to be sold to the public while being "certified as reliable" by dishonest testing.

In the past I have provided your state fire marshal with conclusive evidence of the defective nature of the fraudulent ionization device. This abomination has been installed in about 90% of all Californian homes. But rather than providing complete disclosure to the public, your fire marshal instead rigged an "investigation" to produce "a consensus" that the ionization devices are "adequate" for protecting the lives of the children. Note that if it is proven in a court of law that a cover-up by a state official has caused children to be burned to death and many others to suffer horrible injuries, that dishonesty could result in hundreds of millions of dollars in payouts to the victims or their families. Also, it could result in jail time for certain officials.

Whether the objective is to save the lives of children or to save the state from enormous financial liability, it does not make sense to continue to help cover-up a deadly fraud.

How much could the cost of this cover-up of the smoke detector scandal cost California? To answer that question I enclose my report, *How Much Are 40,000 Dead Kids Worth?* Of course, only a portion of those 40 thousand dead kids were killed by the smoke detector fraud in California. But the case cited where one child burned to death and it resulted in a 150 million dollar award says it all. But to get the full impact of this dollar-loss-risk please read the comments of New Zealander Karl Westwell within my report.

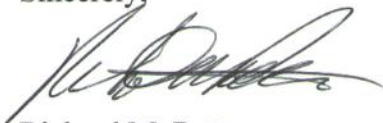
Obviously the past policies of the State Fire Marshal that resulted in children being burned to death could result in legal actions; but now that the CPSC has finally admitted the truth, confirming that the device fails more often than not, the potential for huge losses has increased. If a family sues because several kids have died in a house fire, can California reasonably argue that “we did not know the device was deadly”? I think not.

Of course, to avoid legal damages, it has become routine following fire deaths for the fire investigator to claim that the smoke detectors were “not working smoke detectors” or missing; implying that the batteries were dead, the detectors were not maintained or other carelessness on the part of the occupants. This puts the blame on the victims while absolving the fire officials of any fault. But the CPSC has confirmed that the devices are generally “not working smoke detectors” the day they exit the factory door. Unless the combustion produces the right size and the right number of aerosols (not smoke) the device simply remains silent as the children die. An excellent example of the problem is the misrepresentations made by Larry Flowers, the State Fire Marshal of Ohio, which were exposed by award-winning consumer investigative reporter, Jan Strathman: www.facebook.com/video.php?v=917401991614793.

Irrefutable scientific evidence and legal precedence is available that proves beyond reasonable doubt that ionization smoke alarms have serious, life threatening defects and arguably should never have been allowed to pass any residential safety standards. California is the only state where manufacturers have been required to make payments to obtain the “Fire Marshal’s Seal” (of approval) that is stamped on the packaging of smoke alarms, which then allows them to be sold throughout California. But my investigations indicate that the California State Fire Marshal never set up any testing procedure for approving the devices. It appears to be a money deal only, not a procedure to ensure life safety. Perhaps the Fire Marshal’s office relied solely on the testing at Underwriters’ Laboratories, but UL was recently sued for fraudulent testing and settled out of court.

I would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you to provide you with additional evidence of fraud associated with the marketing of this defective “safety device”.

Sincerely,



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Professional licensed Engineer
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Copies to: media, legal, fire officials



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November 18, 2014

Paul E. Lloret
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Re: Request for Comments on the Proposed Requirements: 1. New Lower Limits for Proposed Flaming Polyurethane Foam Test and 3. Smoldering Polyurethane Foam Test for the *Standard for Single and Multiple Station Smoke Alarms, UL 217*

Dear Mr. Lloret:

This letter presents comments from U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff regarding proposed new requirements in UL 217, *Single and Multiple Station Smoke Alarms*.¹ Reducing the fire death rate requires alerting occupants with enough time to exit the home safely before the conditions become untenable. This has become particularly important because today's homes are furnished with increasing numbers of synthetic materials, including polyurethane foam, which can produce thick, dark smoke. CPSC staff has been concerned that the present UL 217 standard for performance tests for fires may not be sufficient in adequately addressing today's fire hazards. As a member of the task group that participated in helping develop the foundation for the proposed flaming polyurethane and smoldering polyurethane tests, CPSC staff agrees that the present proposed tests will increase the overall performance of residential smoke alarms by subjecting smoke alarms to new smoke characteristics (small and large particle sizes, counts, rates, and colors) that are not captured in the present UL 217 performance tests.

CPSC staff is concerned that the Standards Technical Panel (STP) failed to reach consensus on the first proposal (July 2014) through the voluntary standard process for the flaming and smoldering polyurethane foam tests. Consequently, CPSC staff is hopeful that the STP will reach consensus on the second attempt to adopt the flaming and smoldering polyurethane foam tests for smoke alarms and neither is rejected. CPSC staff is aware of incidents where functional residential smoke alarms did not activate in sufficient amount of time for both flaming and smoldering fires to allow occupants to escape the home. Shortening smoke alarm reaction times to flaming and smoldering polyurethane foam fires can reduce the risk of injury to consumers.

¹ The views expressed in this letter are those of the CPSC staff, and they have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.