SECTION 2:
DEFINITIONS

2.1 **Addressable Device.** A fire alarm system component with an input, output, or combination function that is discretely identified by a unique address.

2.2 **Approved**. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).

2.3 **Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)** An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the code or standard requirements or approving equipment, materials, installation, or procedure.

2.4 **Clean.** All other trades shall have completed their construction activities, including, but not limited to, drywall work and floor covering installations. The premises shall be "move-in" ready.

2.5 **Environmental Life Safety Alarm.** For the purposes of this guide, an environmental life safety alarm shall be limited to carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, gas, oxygen-deficient atmosphere, and other detections that ensure the functionality of monitored life safety systems.

2.6 **Environmental Supervisory Alarm.** For this guide, an environmental supervisory alarm shall be an alarm device used to detect an environmental condition that might threaten the function of the life safety equipment (e.g., low-temperature detection that provides notification to prevent a sprinkler system from freezing).

2.7 **Fire Area.** The aggregate floor area is enclosed and bounded by fire walls meeting the requirements of Section 706 of the International Building Code and fire barriers, exterior walls, or horizontal assemblies of a building. Areas of the building not provided with surrounding walls shall be included in the fire area if such areas are included within the horizontal projection of the roof or floor above. For buildings constructed under the International Residential Code, the fire area is the aggregate floor area enclosed and bounded by the exterior walls of a building.

2.8 **Household Fire Alarm System**. A system of devices that uses a listed fire alarm control unit to produce an alarm signal in the household to notify the occupants of the presence of a fire so that they will evacuate the premises.

2.9 **International Fire Code (IFC).** The currently adopted fire code and amendments by the AHJ.

2.10 **Kitchen Hood Extinguishing System.** A kitchen hood extinguishing system releases wet chemical extinguishing agents or utilizes a special building fire sprinkler system design. In wet agent systems, chemicals react with grease to create a harmless, soapy substance that can't re-ignite. This process, called saponification, protects the hoods,

appliances, and plenum areas from the ravages of fire. The system also shuts off the electricity and gas to appliances under the commercial hood for added safety. The extinguishing system micro-switch is an initiating device.

2.11 **Listed for Fire**. Equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by an organization that is acceptable to the AHJ, and concerned with evaluation products or services, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials or periodic evaluation of services, and whose listing states that either the equipment, material, or service meets appropriate designated standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose (e.g. fire protection or fire detection).

2.12 **Node.** A device with direct communication into a fire alarm control panel (FACP). Any device that detects fire, smoke, or heat (e.g., smoke detector or sprinkler flow switch).

2.13 **Point.** A point can be any device that detects fire, smoke, or heat (e.g., a smoke detector or water flow switch).

2.14 **Riser.** The supply pipes from the service provider (curb stop) to the system cross main or branch lines. The riser includes all gauges, valves, backflows, check valves, expansion tanks, and/or reduced pressure devices (RPZ).

2.15 **Shall.** Indicates a mandatory requirement.

2.16 **Should or May.** Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required

2.17 **Sprinkler Low Air.** The loss of air pressure in a dry pipe sprinkler system. A sprinkler low air switch is an initiating device.

2.18 **Sprinkler Water Flow.** The discharge of water from a sprinkler system activates a water flow switch. A water flow switch is an initiating device.

2.19 **Supervision.** A visual and audible alarm signal is given at the central safety station to indicate when the system is in operation or when a condition that would impair the satisfactory operation of the system exists. Supervisory alarms shall give a distinct signal for each system component.

2.20 **Thermal Detection.** Thermal detection is an alarm device designed to respond when the convection thermal energy of a fire increases the temperature of a heat-sensitive element. Thermal detectors have two main operating classifications: "rate-of-rise" and "fixed temperature." The detector helps reduce property damage.

2.21 **Trouble Signal.** A signal indicating a problem occurring with any circuits, devices, or wiring associated with the alarm system

2.22 **Valve Tamper.** A signal that indicates the closing of any sprinkler and/or standpipe control valve. A valve tamper switch initiates a supervisory signal.

2.23 **Voluntary Systems.** Voluntary systems are installed at the owner's option and are not required by the Fire Code or the AHJ. For this guide, voluntary systems shall meet the requirements of required systems.