

# BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing  
**AIBC, EGBC, BOABC**

**File No: 24-0101**

**INTERPRETATION**

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Interpretation Date: May 20, 2025

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 2024

Subject: Visible signal devices within dwelling unit

Keywords: Visible signal

Building Code Reference(s): 3.2.4.19.(1); 3.2.4.19.(7), 3.2.4.20.(7) & (8)

## **Question:**

Are visible signal devices required within dwelling units?

## **Interpretation:**

No (with exemptions).

Generally, as per Sentence 3.2.4.19.(1) visible signals that are part of a fire alarm system are not required in suites of residential occupancies.

Clause 3.2.4.19.(1)(g), Sentences 3.2.4.20.(7) and (8) require 10% of hotel and motel rooms to be equipped with visible signals, so if such rooms are equipped with kitchens, they would be defined as dwelling units.

A rough in for future visible signals is required in adaptable dwelling units as per Sentence 3.2.4.19.(7).



Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

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