



Oklahoma State Department of Health
Creating a State of Health

July 7, 2008

TO: LTC Nursing Facilities

Re: Provider Letter 08-03
Fire Extinguisher Licensing Act

Dear Administrator:

In 2007, the Oklahoma Legislature passed SB 98, creating the Fire Extinguisher Licensing Act, within the Occupational Licensing Division of the Oklahoma State Department of Health. The State Board of Health has adopted rules that become effective on July 11, 2008, requiring the licensing of companies and individuals servicing, installing, inspecting, certifying, charging, or testing any portable fire extinguisher or fire suppression systems. This includes portable fire extinguishers, pre-engineered, and engineered suppression systems. The Occupational Licensing Division has recently received requests for license application packets from several hospitals that currently provide their own services. It is possible that long-term care facilities have staff that also provides these services, and we therefore want to make you aware of this new requirement. Persons who are currently engaging in these activities have until September 30, 2008, to submit an application.

The Fire Extinguisher Industry Act, Fire Extinguisher Industry Regulations, and applications can be found on the Oklahoma State Department of Health's website at <http://old.health.ok.gov/> or you may request a copy to be mailed by calling (405) 271-5779. For additional information contact Matt Schue, Director of the Occupational Licensing Division.

Regards,

Dorya Huser
Chief, Long Term Care

C: DHS Aging Services Division, State LTC Ombudsman
Oklahoma Association of Health Care Providers
Oklahoma Association of Homes and Services for the Aging
Oklahoma Health Care Authority
Oklahoma State Department of Health