		ICENSES AND INSPECTIONS  N OF INFORMATION  No. F-9701	CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA TITLE 4 — BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND OCCUPANCY CODE
SUBJECT OF BULLETIN:			REFERENCE CODE SECTION(S):
CERTIFICATION OF LIMITED AREA SPRINKLER SYSTEMS			F-901.6
ISSUED BY			ISSUE DATE 7/25/97
NAMES:	David L. Wismer, P.E., C.B.O. Richard A. Bailey, Battalion Chief	SIGNATURES:	REVISED 8/1/2010
TITLES:	Director of Planning and Code Development, Dept. of Licenses and Inspections Chief, Fire Code Unit, FireDepartment		PAGE 1 OF 1

## ISSUE:

Section F-901.6 of the *Philadelphia Fire Prevention Code* requires all fire protection systems be tested in accordance with section F-915.

The question has been raised as to the need for certification of limited area sprinkler systems which have been installed in accordance with the building code provisions for such systems.

The building code provides for limited area systems to protect small areas that require fire suppression in a building that is not protected throughout with a sprinkler system. The limited area systems are regulated under a separate section of the building code and are relieved from many of the requirements that are applicable to sprinkler systems in general, e.g. fire department connections; separate fire water service from the city main; alarm and alarm attachments; flushing, main drain and flow tests.

The certification of automatic sprinkler systems is contingent on NFPA standards and requires testing of components that do not exist in limited area sprinkler systems, and at pressures that exceed the installation requirements of limited area sprinkler systems.

## DIRECTION:

The department will not require annual certification of limited area sprinkler systems based on the characteristics of such systems described above.