

Councilman Panico Brings Fire Alarm System Testing In Line with National Standards and Lowers Cost

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Farmingville, NY - On August 28, 2012, Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico, along with his colleagues, passed a local law that brought the Fire Alarm System testing in line with National Standards. The annual savings for a mom and pop small businesses is upwards of \$150.00 per year, for a small strip shopping center owner the savings is upwards of \$600.00 per year and the multifamily condo buildings will see a savings of upwards of \$300.00 per building.

"In speaking with our building commissioner and many business owners, an issue arose regarding the frequency and fees associated with fire alarm system testing," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "In the near future we will be looking at the propriety and fairness of many other fees in the building and fire prevention departments to help out small businesses."

"We are always looking for efficiencies in our operations. The good news is this change will reduce costs for business owners without compromising safety," said Building Commissioner Martin Haley.

The code had required that all fire alarm systems be fully inspected and tested every 6 months. This exceeds the recommended testing frequencies of the NFPA and imposes both financial and operational burdens on the building owner. While this change may seem less restrictive, it brings the testing in line with national standards, and still by virtue of the required testing frequencies, insures that portions of the systems are inspected as often as quarterly, semi-annually and annually. The submission of the report of inspection will now only be required annually.

For more information about the Town of Brookhaven and/or to follow the achievements and actions Councilman Panico is taking to improve our communities please go to www.brookhaven.org.

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