



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FIRE MARSHALS

September 18, 2019

Jeffrey P. Bezos
Amazon, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
2021 7th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Dear Mr. Bezos:

The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), an association whose principal membership comprises the senior fire officials in the United States and their top deputies, is asking your company and other online retailers to stop the sale of smoke alarms that are not tested to nationally-recognized standards and which may not comply with applicable building codes in many states and municipalities.

Smoke alarms sold in the United States are sent to a Nationally Recognized Third Party Testing Laboratory such as Underwriter Laboratories (UL) or Intertek/ETL for testing and review. The laboratory tests the smoke alarms in accordance to the UL 217 *Standard for Smoke Alarms*, the industry-accepted standard. Products not tested to this standard may not accurately detect fire, alarm the consumer in a timely fashion, operate for the desired time period, or meet other critical performance standards.

Additionally, most states require smoke alarms that are to be installed in occupancies to be listed by approved third-party testing agencies and bear the mark of that agency showing the product is tested and listed to the UL 217 standard. Any alarms that are installed by a consumer not meeting the listing and testing requirements may be in violation of the law and subject to the prescribed penalties.

We urge you to stop selling smoke alarms and other fire safety products that do not carry the UL or ETL marks, or the marks of another approved third-party testing agency. We also urge you to remove any non-listed products from your website immediately.

Please feel free to contact our Executive Director, Jim Narva at 202-470-4258 or by email at jnarva@narvaassociates.com to discuss this matter further. On behalf of the other state fire marshals, I thank you for taking this matter seriously and to your prompt action to remedy this potentially serious safety issue.

Sincerely,

Julius Halas, President
National Association of State Fire Marshals
Director, Florida State Fire Marshal's Office