OKLAHOMA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT
Fire Marshal's Office
Interpretation

Interpretation #: OKCAHJ-2017-04	**Subject of Interpretation:** Location of Inspector's Test Connection on Sprinkler Systems	
Code Reference: NFPA 13-2013, 25.2.3.1		
Reviewed By: Robert Crisp	**Title:** Assistant Fire Marshal	**Effective Date:** 10/30/2017
Approved By: Harold Thompson	**Title:** Fire Marshal	**Revision Date:** N/A

Purpose:
To provide guidance and uniformity in the installation of the inspector's test connection on fire sprinkler systems. This policy applies to all inspection personnel, plan review specialists, and sprinkler contractors when commissioning new sprinkler systems or up-fitting existing systems.

Description of Code Reference:
NFPA 13, 25.2.3.1 states waterflow detecting devices including the associated alarm circuits shall be flow tested through the inspector's test connection.

Policy based on the Interpretation of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ):
Conducting flow test on a fire sprinkler system is an essential component of initial design, installation, and maintaining system performance, and allows evaluation of the water supply coming into the fire sprinkler system. This policy will require all inspector's test connections to be installed at the remote location from the sprinkler riser to ensure an accurate characterization of the flow and to identify any degradation of the water supply or impairment of the sprinkler system.

The inspector's test connection should discharge outside the building at a point free from the possibility of causing water damage or to a drain connection capable of handling the flow of the inspector's test connection. An inspector's test connection discharging to the outside of a building shall be fitted with a turned-down elbow. The turned-down elbow minimizes the possibility of property damage and also discourages the use of the connection as a refuse receptacle. The inspector's test connection shall be provided with permanently marked weatherproof metal or rigid plastic identification signs. The identification sign shall be secured with corrosion-resistant wire, chain or other approved means.