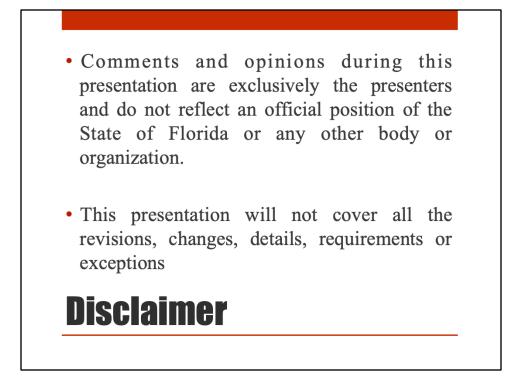
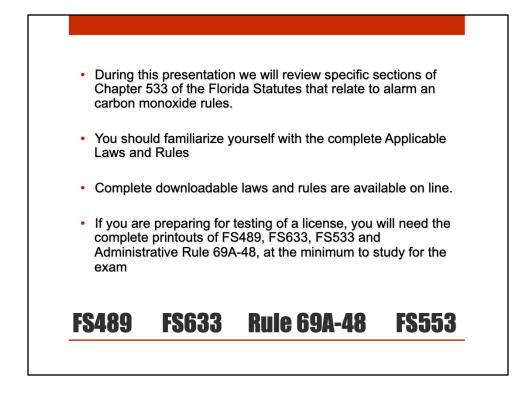


Welcome to the advanced building code course. This course will cover Florida Statutes 553 and the Florida Building Code and it's relation to 489 Part II

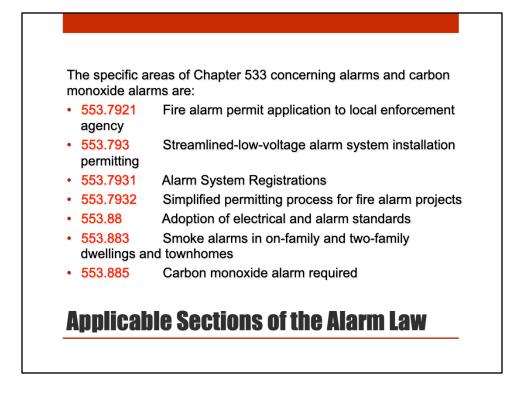
The complete text of each topic is available at no cost online.



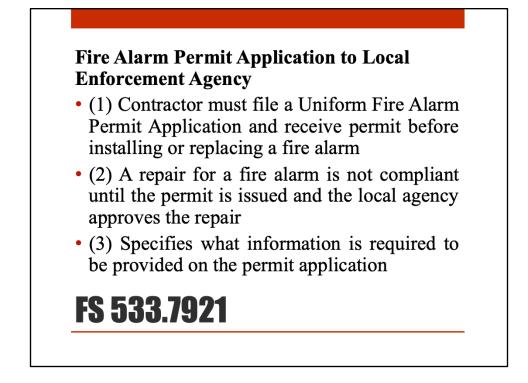
This course is designed to provide you an introduction to the Florida Laws and Rules pertaining to electrical and alarm contracting. If you are a qualifier or business owner, you should have a complete copy of the Statutes and Rules and understand your responsibilities.



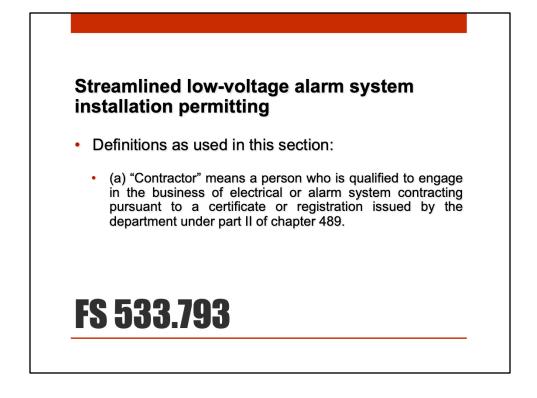
In this module we will cover Chapter 553 of the 2021 Florida Statues that relate to Building Construction Standards. We will be examining Part IV, Florida Building Code.



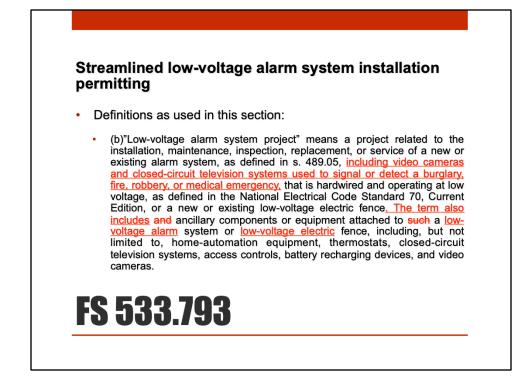
There are specific sections of Chapter 533 relating to alarms and those are the ones we will review today.



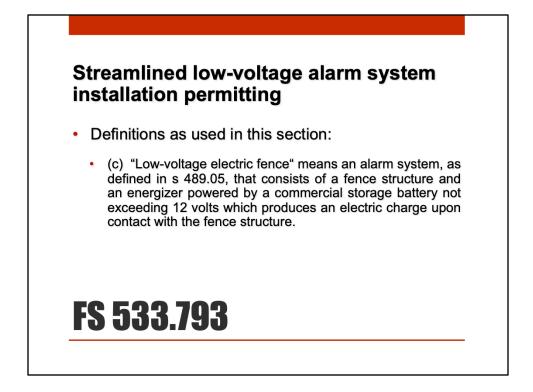
Section 533.7921 provides for the requirement of a Uniform Fire Alarm Permit Application. The permit must be issued before the fire alarm system is considered to be compliant.



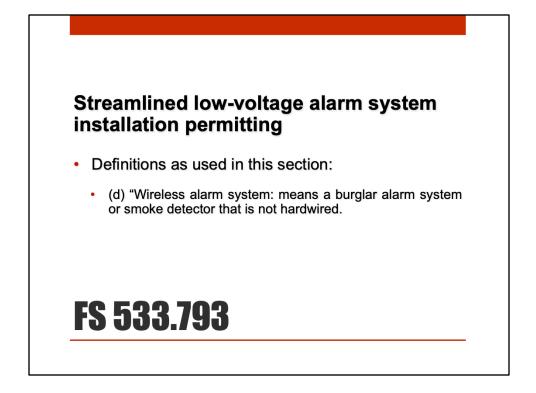
A contractor means a person who is qualified to engage in the business of electrical or alarm system contracting pursuant to a certificate or registration issued by the department under part II of chapter 489.



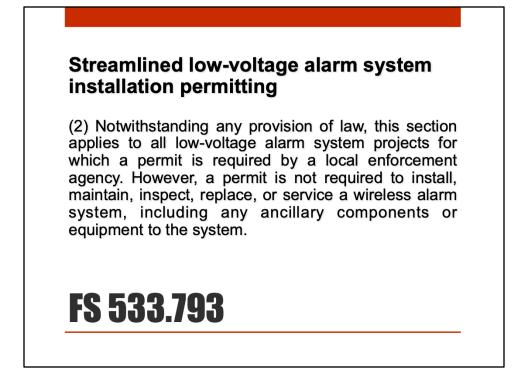
In July of 2022, the Florida Governor signed into law Senate Bill 1140 that included language that changed several paragraphs in Chapter 553. Those changes are noted in red.



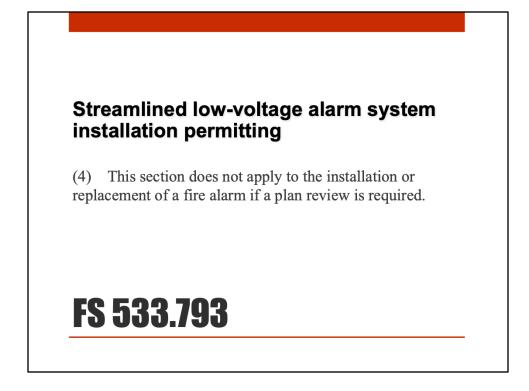
A low-voltage electric fence is defined in section 533.793, although not defined in Florida Statute 489



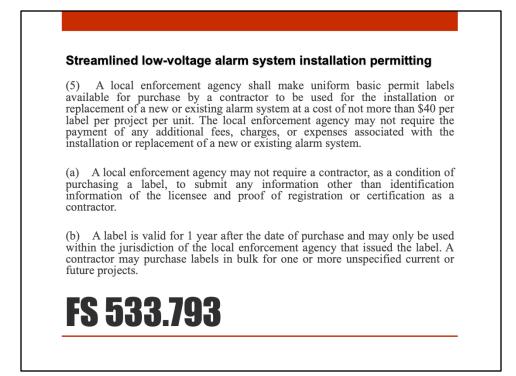
Many companies today utilize wireless systems. Systems that only plug directly into a receptacle, not unlike a toaster or an ipad. These operate on batteries that are of the low-voltage type either 1.5 volts, 3 volts, and 9 volt batteries.



Because of its inherently safe nature, and the design or a wireless system, the legislature has deemed it unnecessary to obtain an installation, or electrical permit to install such a system. However, depending upon the municipality, an alarm user permit may be required.



When a plan review is required, the streamlined provision does not apply.



This provision requires permit labels to be available by the local municipality and limits it's cost to \$40. Labels are valid for 1 year from date of purchase.

Streamlined low-voltage alarm system installation permitting

(6) A contractor shall post an unused uniform basic permit label in a conspicuous place on the premises of the low-voltage alarm system project site before commencing work on the project.

(7) A contractor is not required to notify the local enforcement agency before commencing work on a low-voltage alarm system project. However, a contractor must submit a Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project as provided under subsection (8) to the local enforcement agency within 14 days after completing the project. A local enforcement agency may take disciplinary action against a contractor who fails to timely submit a Uniform Notice of a Low-Voltage Alarm System Project.

FS 533.793



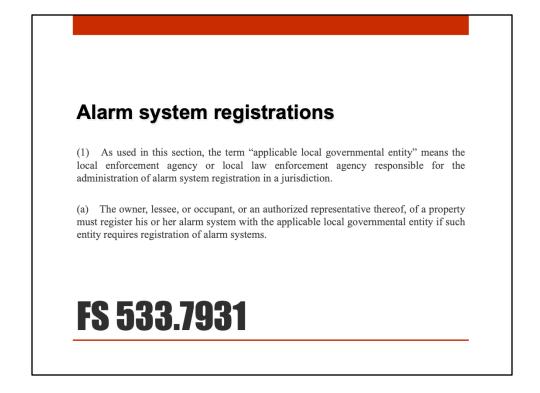
Streamlined low-voltage alarm system installation permitting

(9) A local enforcement agency may coordinate directly with the owner or customer to inspect a low-voltage alarm system project to ensure compliance with applicable codes and standards. If a low-voltage alarm system project fails an inspection, the contractor must take corrective action as necessary to pass inspection.

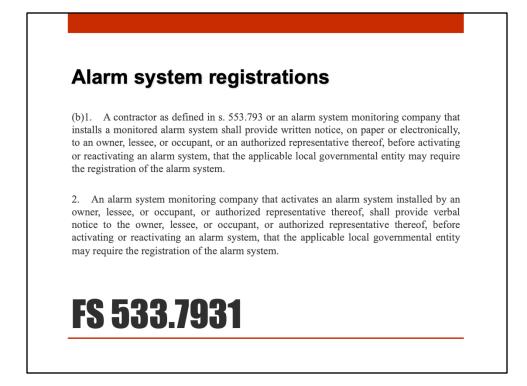
(10) A municipality, county, district, or other entity of local government may not adopt or maintain in effect any ordinance or rule regarding a low-voltage alarm system project that is inconsistent with this section.

(11) A uniform basic permit label shall not be required for the subsequent maintenance, inspection, or service of an alarm system that was permitted in accordance with this section.

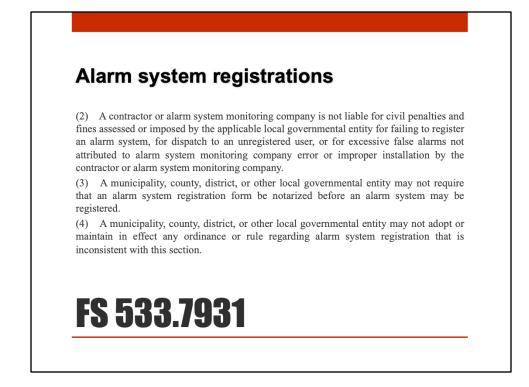




Each alarm system must be registered with the appropriate municipality where the alarm system is installed. This may be the police or sheriff's department, the electrical authority, or some other agency. Every municipality will determine when and where a registration or alarm user's permit is required.



The responsibility for notifying the customer of the requirement for registering their alarm system falls to the alarm contractor or the monitoring company.



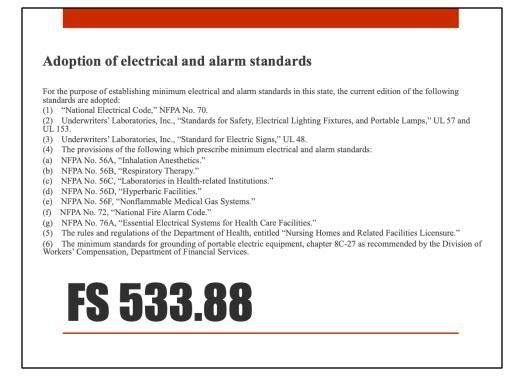
A licensed contractor in Florida is not responsible for the fines levied against the user for failing to register an alarm system, for dispatch to an unregistered user, or for excessive false alarms not attributed to alarm system monitoring company error or improper installation by the contractor or alarm system monitoring company.



New section that has been added provides several definitions that pertain the the simplified permitting process.

- (2)(a) A local enforcement agency may require a contractor, as a condition of obtaining a permit for a fire alarm system project, to submit a completed application and payment.
- (b) A local enforcement agency may not require a contractor to submit plans or specifications as a condition of obtaining a permit for a fire alarm system project.
- (3) A local enforcement agency must issue a permit for a fire alarm system project in person or <u>electronically.</u>
- (4) A local enforcement agency must require at least one inspection of a fire alarm system project to ensure compliance with applicable codes and standards. If a fire alarm system project fails an inspection, the contractor must take corrective action as necessary to pass inspection.
- (5) A contractor must keep a copy of the plans and specifications at a fire alarm system project worksite and make such plans and specifications available to the inspector at each inspection.

FS 533.7932 New Section



Florida adopts a variety of codes and standards from nationally recognized agencies such as Underwriter's Laboratories and the National Fire Protection Association.

Adoption of electrical and alarm standards

"The Florida Building Commission shall update and maintain such electrical standards consistent with the procedures established in s. 553.73 and may recommend the National Electrical Installation Standards."



The Florida Building Commission shall update and maintain such electrical standards consistent with the procedures established in s. 553.73 and may recommend the National Electrical Installation Standards.

Smoke alarms in one-family and two-family dwellings and townhomes

One-family and two-family dwellings and townhomes undergoing a repair, or a level 1 alteration as defined in the Florida Building Code, may use smoke alarms powered by 10-year nonremovable, nonreplaceable batteries in lieu of retrofitting such dwelling with smoke alarms powered by the dwelling's electrical system. A battery-powered smoke alarm that is newly installed or replaces an existing battery-powered smoke alarm as a result of a level 1 alteration must be powered by a nonremovable, nonreplaceable battery that powers the alarm for at least 10 years. The battery requirements of this section do not apply to a fire alarm, smoke detector, smoke alarm, or ancillary component that is electronically connected as a part of a centrally monitored or supervised alarm system; that uses a low-power, radio frequency wireless communication signal; or that contains multiple sensors, such as a smoke alarm combined with a carbon monoxide alarm or other multisensor devices, and is approved and listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

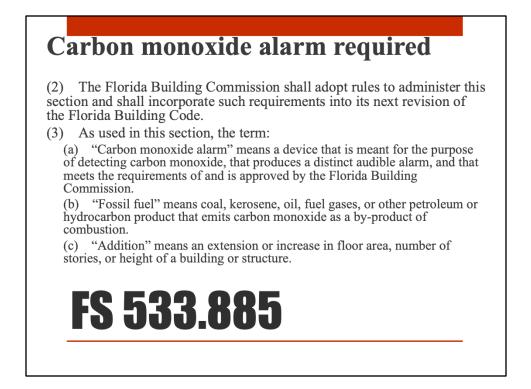


Carbon monoxide alarm required

(1) Every separate building or addition to an existing building, other than a hospital, an inpatient hospice facility, or a nursing home facility licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration, constructed on or after July 1, 2008, and having a fossil-fuel-burning heater or appliance, a fireplace, an attached garage, or other feature, fixture, or element that emits carbon monoxide as a byproduct of combustion shall have an approved operational carbon monoxide alarm installed within 10 feet of each room used for sleeping purposes in the new building or addition, or at such other locations as required by the Florida Building Code. The requirements of this subsection may be satisfied with the installation of a hardwired or battery-powered carbon monoxide alarm. For a new hospital, an inpatient hospice facility, a nursing home facility licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration, or a new state correctional institution, an approved operational carbon monoxide detector shall be installed inside or directly outside of each room or area within the hospital or facility where a fossil-fuel-burning heater, engine, or appliance is located. This detector shall be connected to the fire alarm system of the hospital or facility as a supervisory signal. This subsection does not apply to existing buildings that are undergoing alterations or repairs unless the alteration is an addition as defined in subsection (3).



The Florida Building Code is referenced in Florida Statute 533 as the governing body dictating when and where a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed.



The Florida Building Code is referenced in Florida Statute 533 as the governing body dictating when and where a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed.

The next few slides should be inserted into the laws and rules where 489.5185 is referenced



In July the governor signed into law SB1140 that made changes to the requirements for Fire Alarm System Agents that are either certified by NICET or ESA. This recognizes the higher level of education these individuals have achieved.

Fire alarm system agents

(5)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), each fire alarm system agent must receive 6 hours of continuing education on fire alarm system installation and repair and false alarm prevention every 2 years from a board-approved sponsor of training and through a board-approved training course.

(b) A person holding a current NICET Level II certification or higher in Fire Alarm Systems or Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems, certification as an ESA Certified Fire Alarm Technician, or certification as an ESA Certified Fire Alarm Designer is required to complete only 2 hours of continuinfg education training in the prevention of false alarms every 2 years from a board-approved sponsor of training and through a board-approved training course.

