## A Report on Correct Smoke Detectors in Your Home

by Roger Johnson, Indiana State Fire Marshal (Ret.)

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Roger Johnson

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**Note:** The World Fire Safety Foundation (WFSF) thanks Indiana's former State Fire Marshal Roger Johnson for permission to reproduce this report and for his ongoing advocacy for photoelectric smoke alarms. Roger Johnson is a supporter of, and an advisor to, the WFSF.

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by Roger Johnson, Indiana State Fire Marshal (Ret) | 25 December 2015

This message is intended to address what happens if fire occurs as you sleep unaware of smoke in your home.

Most deadly residential fires begin as a slow smoldering fire that takes place while people sleep.

There are two types of smoke detectors, Ionization or Photoelectric.

## lonization alarms do not usually sound a warning during early stages of a smoldering type fire in time for you to escape.

No matter how new or fancy an Ionization Smoke Detector you may have in your home, odds are this

type will not sound an alarm to wake you in time to escape smoke from early stages of a fire.

### PHOTOELECTRIC SMOKE DETECTORS WILL ALERT YOU IN TIME TO ESCAPE!

As a person sleeps they are unaware of silent smoke building up around them. This is the crucial time an alarm needs to sound early enough for you and your family to escape the dangerous smoke

# Look at accounts of people who die in fires. Why did they die if they had a working smoke detector? Because the alarm failed to activate (sound a warning) in time to wake the person sleeping.

When a person is sound asleep breathing in smoke and fumes can cause them to be overcome by smoke, investigations find many times survivors who manage to escape tell of being disoriented as they struggled to escape smoke and fumes. Firefighters have thousands of documentations on finding victims near a door as persons try to escape. Autopsies usually report the victim died from smoke inhalation NOT THE FLAMES.

THIS IS SO EASY TO CORRECT. JUST INSTALL A PHOTOELECTRIC SMOKE DETECTOR NEAR YOUR SLEEPING AREA AND YOU WILL HAVE A MUCH BETTER CHANCE TO ESCAPE INSTEAD OF PLAYING A GAME OF CHANCE WITH AN IONIZATION SMOKE DETECTOR MOST LIKELY TO FAIL IF A FIRE OCCURS.

THIS INFORMATION IS BASED ON TESTS BY NUMEROUS FIRE DEPARTMENTS. \*(Check out WTHR INDIANAPOLIS Investigative Report DEADLY DELAY by Senior Investigative Reporter Bob Segall)

You determine if your family will survive a fire as they sleep, PHOTOELECTRIC SMOKE DETECTORS are the best investment for everyone's safety.

Best Regards, Roger Johnson

Indiana State Fire Marshal (Ret.), Past President Ind. Firefighters Association Gold Card Life Member IVFA, Past Chief East Columbus Fire Department

**Note:** This story has been extracted from Indiana's WTHR TV report of 25 December 2015: Former State Fire Marshal Issues Urgent Warning

### Ionization Smoke Detector Fails Aquarium Test

from 'Deadly Deadly' Investigation - October 2007



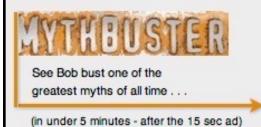
Investigative Reporter Bob Segall's 'Deadly Delay' investigation

'Over the last couple of months we've been telling you why it's so important to have a photoelectric smoke detector in your home.

We're going to give you some more proof right now."

#### Bob's Alarming Exposé

Bob Segall, one America's leading investigative reporters, exposes the frightening truth about the type of smoke alarms in hundreds of millions of homes around the world.





WHTR's 'Deadly Delay' investigation | 'Ionization Smoke Detector Fails Aquarium Test' with WTHR Chief Investigative Reporter, Bob Segall, WTHR Eyewitness News, Indiana, U.S.A. | October 2007

### www.SmokeAlarmWarning.org/myths.html

## WTHR's 'Deadly Delay' Ionization Smoke Alarm Investigation Indiana, U.S.A. | June 2007 ~ December 2015



www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=6552929