This is a quick guide to what each fire alarm signal means, possible causes for the activation, and how to fix the problem. Always call your fire alarm service provider before attempting to fix any issues with your fire alarm system.

Trouble Signal - Generally yellow and indicates there’s an operational issue

- Fire Alarm Batteries: Batteries possibly below the rated capacity. Check fire alarm batteries connections and remaining capacity
- Power: Does the system have power? Verify electrical breaker is on
- Ground Fault/Open Circuit: Worn insulation on wire, wire loose or separated from device, lightning strike causing circuit issues. Call your service provider
- Copper Line to Voice Over IP: Made the switch to voice over IP and the fire alarm is still connected to the copper line and fire alarm can’t dial out in case of emergency or perform daily test. Call your service provider

Supervisory Signal - Typically, yellow and indicates there’s an issue with a system monitored by the fire alarm system

- Sprinkler Valve/Tamper Switch Active: Is the fire sprinkler valve closed? Ask in-house maintenance team to adjust the valve
- Low-Pressure Switch on Dry Pipe System: Compressor not running properly or can’t meet the system’s pressure demand, air escaping through damaged pipe. Call your service provider
- Duct Detector: False activations tend to occur when the heating system is turned on at the start of the season or a high level of humidity or condensation is present. Call your service provider and clean your filters and duct detectors regularly

Alarm Signal - A red alarm signal indicates an emergency that requires immediate attention. Reasons for false alarms:

- Improper Fire Alarm Maintenance: Is your system serviced at the proper intervals? Check service interval requirements and when your system was last serviced
- Smoke Detectors: Improperly cleaned smoked detectors. Clean detectors per the manufacturer’s specifications
- Waterflow Switches: Improperly set retard/delay mechanism on waterflow switch or parts are bad. Call service provider
- Malicious Activations: Maliciously activated fire alarm pull stations. Install pull station covers