

John Swanson has nearly 20 years of experience in the fire service as a Firefighter, Fire Marshal and Deputy State Fire Marshal with the State of Minnesota. He is certified as a Fire Inspector III, Plans Examiner, Firefighter II and NICET certified in fire alarm systems. He currently represents the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division on the NFPA 72 – National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code Technical Committee and is a previous member of the International Building Code (IBC) Fire Safety Committee. He serves as a contract instructor and subject matter expert for the International Code Council (ICC). He is the author and developer of ICC's Plans Examiner I certification test and is often called on to create new Powerpoint material for ICC's Training and Education department. John also regularly travels the United States providing training on the National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code. In 2013, Minnesota Governor, Mark Dayton appointed John to a four-year term on the Minnesota Board of Architecture and Engineering.

In 2013, John's youngest son was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Due to this, John has a personal interest in fire alarm systems and fire safety for children on the autism spectrum and other special needs. Through his work on the NFPA 72 technical committee, John has worked on a national task group to review fire alarm notification appliances and the impact they have on children with autism. He has also served as a consultant nationally to architects and engineers, school districts and code officials on autism related fire and life safety concerns in the built environment.

