April 2024

A Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. Publication

Mourning the Loss of Local Hero's





"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." - John 15:13

On February 18, while responding as part of a SWAT callout during a domestic dispute, Burnsville police officers, Paul Elmstrand, Matthew Ruge and Burnsville firefighter/ paramedic Adam Finseth perished in the line of duty as a result of gunshot wounds sustained at the scene. The Minnesota Fire Responder Community mourns the tragic loss of these three brave men.

All of us at Whitemore Fire Consultants have had the privilege in working with the Burnsville Police and Burnsville Fire Department. It is with great sadness that we stand with you as you navigate the loss of your friends and comrades.

In a February 19, 2023 the Whitemore Fire Consultants Facebook® post, the following public statement was released: "Whitemore Fire Consultants stands with our brothers and sisters of the Burnsville Police and Burnsville Fire Departments. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of these brave public servants, friends and the community who are mourning the loss of these three young and vibrant lives that were lost senselessly yesterday. Rest in peace Officer Paul Elmstrand, Officer Matthew Ruge and Firefighter/Medic Adam Finseth. Thank you for devoting your lives to protecting our communities."

These brave men were laid to rest in private ceremonies with their family and friends. A public service was held on February 28, 2024 at Grace Church in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.



Whitemore Fire Gives Back

Cancer awareness has always been a cause that Whitemore Fire Consultants embraces. This year, our efforts to beat this deadly disease is more relevant than ever. This past January, Whitemore Fire Consultant employee, Stacy Jadin, daughter of Bob and Pam Whitemore, was diagnosed with Stage II breast cancer. This is a fight that no one fights alone and it takes a village to overcome the reality of surgeries and treatments.

As part of our ongoing efforts to increase the awareness and to support the efforts and research for a cure and treatment payment assistance, we participated in a fundraiser in Fort Meyers, Florida. In conjunction with the reigning MLB Central Division Champion, Minnesota Twins, we gathered at Top Golf to raise money and awareness for the Lee Health Cancer Institute.

This is our 10th year of being a part of this wonderful organization and help support their work in beating this disease.





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"You beat cancer by how you live, why you live and in the manner in which you live." - Susan G. Komen





Stacy Jadin

When Does the Data Process Begin?

.... An Investigators Playbook, by Brian R. Whitemore, CFI



The fire investigation and the scientific community has adopted the Scientific Method as the industry standard for conducting fire investigations. As part of the "scientific method", we are to recognize the need (identify the problem), test the hypotheses (deductive reasoning) and if a stand alone hypotheses can withstand the testing, your then now have a cause. In the event that more than one hypothesis cannot be eliminated, refuted, etc.,

then the cause of the fire is classified as "undetermined." Undetermined doesn't necessarily mean "we have no idea what happened", it just means that sometimes we as experts are unable to eliminate the "chicken or the egg.".

The question though as an investigator is when does the data collection begin? Does it begin when you first arrive at the scene? Does it begin when you first become assigned or dispatched to the a loss? What "data" should be requested or looked into as a part of your "data collection?" These are questions that if you ask ten different experts, you very well may receive ten different answers. The benefit of all the investigators at Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. is that all of us in some facet have served as a first responder/firefighter, spanning all rank levels within the fire service. As part of that experience, we have been taught and trained on the incident command system and understand the value of what the "Blue Card" incident command system has brought to not only the incident command structure on the fire ground, but how to incorporate that information into a fire scene investigation.

Let's back up for a second here and define what is a "Blue Card?" A Blue Card is a training and certification system provided to fire departments that defines the best "Standard Command Practices" according to the American Council on Education, for common, local, everyday strategic and tactical emergency operations conducted on NIMS Type 4 and Type 5 events."

As a part of this training and command operations conducted on first arriving officers are to conduct a scene size up. Within this size up information that will be aired to all dispatch and all responding companies, the type of structure, size of the structure, type of occupancy, whether smoke or fire is showing, and what type of strategy/tactical response will be taken. An example of this might be, "Fire Department Engine 2 has arrived to a 2-story house, with smoke showing, Engine 2 will be investigating and have command." Further tactical investigation often takes place relaying more data to responding companies which may include whether if there is a basement, if so what type of basement, and where active fire, if any, is observed. In this same example, they may follow up and say, "360 is complete, we have a walk -out basement, with active fire at the basement level." Further communication may include the tactical approach of the first responding engine and they will communicate their departments SOPs on suppression and what strategy they are taking (offensive or defensive.)

This information is critical data for the investigator to understand and interpret. Whether first arriving fire crews know it or not, they have provided crucial information/data to forming an initial hypothesis. This information provides the investigator critical information as to the type of construction, level of origin, a possible room of origin, and how involved the fire is upon arrival. This initial size up pertaining to the example provided, can also include whether the fire was venting upon arrival or if only smoke conditions were observed. Additional information regarding point of entering the structure for fire attack, which could play a role for heat/fire flow analysis. Listening to the radio transmissions could be beneficial regarding whether smoke detectors or alarm systems were present and sounding?

As a public sector investigator, access to this information whether your are working for a county/ state, or the local AHJ (authority having jurisdiction), it is critical to review. If working for the private sector, this information should be requested, but also bolsters the responsibility to contact the local department, investigator, etc. To answer my own question, the data collection for your hypotheses begins when the tones drop.

When Does the Data Process Begin?

.... An Investigators Playbook (continued)

Scene Considerations/Observations

When you initiate your investigation/scene assessment a few considerations before you begin should include what are you investigating? Is it a structure fire; a vehicle fire, heavy equipment, boat of a wildland fire?

In this instance we will focus on a structure fire. One question to ask yourself is what type of building construction did the fire occur in?

Type I: Fire Resistive

Type II: Non-Combustible T

Type III: Ordinary (Exterior Protected)

Type IV: Heavy Timber

Type V: Wood Framed – (My most commonly investigated building construction type)

- Is it a single-family dwelling (house), multifamily dwelling (duplex), apartment, condo, etc.?
- Is the occupancy owner occupied or a rental dwelling?

Once the construction type and the type of occupancy is determined, it is important to perform a risk assessment to identify potential hazards within the fire scene. This could be inhalation, slip, trip, fall, overhead obstructions, collapse concerns, etc. The most important rule is **SAFETY**. Always follow your department or agencies PPE requirements/policy when conducting an investigation.

Once deemed safe to enter, I typically will perform an initial walkthrough alone through the structure to preliminarily determine my area of origin. This would include an exterior 360° walk around the exterior where I typically photograph and document during this time, as sometimes the structure is a large building and one walk around is enough. During this exterior walkaround I document the utility service entrances, all sides of the building (A, B, C, D). I suggest following your department SOP's on how to designate the sides of the buildings.

I typically use cardinal directions (north, south, east & west) however, when on the public side and citing your NFIRS or CAD it can be easier to stick with the A, B, C or D side designation. NOTE: Always document your entry doors into the structure and interview crews to determine if they utilized forceable entry.

During you initial walk through, be cognizant if there are life safety systems present i.e. smoke detectors, is the building monitored, is there a sprinkler system? Additionally, during the progression of the fire did the smoke detectors/fire alarms activate? Did the sprinkler system, (if present and within origin area), activate and control the fire? Are there security cameras on site or adjacent to the subject area? If the structure is a single-family-dwelling is there a 3rd party monitoring service (ADT)?

Once you have determined the type of construction, type of occupancy and what life safety systems are present (many of these questions may need to be answered during an interview with the homeowner, landlord, tenants, etc. as well as with the first in fire crews, police officers, fire officers, bystanders, etc.)

It is important to remember that not all these questions can be answered during the initial walk through. Interviews may be required to obtain factual information necessary.



In Memory Of









Marilyn Blomseth

Marge Lundy

Robert Noah

Dawn Bergman

It has been a difficult year for our Whitemore Fire family with the loss of four of our parents. Marilyn Blomseth, mother of Jeff Blomseth, Marge Lundy, mother of Pam Whitemore, Robert Noah, father of Doug Noah and Dawn Bergman, mother of Stacy Wellcome all passed away during the past few months. These amazing people made us who we are and taught us the meaning of integrity, character and work ethic. We are so appreciative of the cards and notes of sympathy and support that we have received from our friends and colleagues. Thank you for lifting us up during these difficult times.

Whitemore Fire Consultants—Holiday Hours





Thirty Years—A Look Back as We Focus Forward By Robert B. Whitemore, CFI

On July 1, 2024, Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. will celebrate our 30th anniversary as a company performing origin and cause fire/explosion investigations primarily throughout North America. Many changes have taken place over the years within our company and this profession. However, one thing that has stayed consistent through the years is our unwavering commitment to provide the highest quality investigation services to our clients. While we continue to look forward as a company firmly focused on meeting the needs of our clients it is also beneficial to periodically look in the "rear view mirror" and reflect upon where we have come from!

Thirty years ago, on July 1, 1994, we opened the doors of Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. to begin a new chapter in our professional lives. I had just left Robins Kaplan, Attorneys at Law as Chief Investigator, having worked with them for 14 years handling major catastrophic incidents throughout North America and portions of the world. I was also completing my year as President of the International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc (IAAI) and had traveled for 48 weeks that year. While the pace was hectic and extremely rewarding, it obviously was not conducive to being present in the lives of my wife, Pam and two children, Stacy and Brian. So, between Pam and I plans were set in motion to change our life and set a new course that we hoped would be beneficial both personally and professionally.

Once we opened the doors to our new company (working out of a 4-season porch at the rear of our house in Prior Lake, MN) it didn't take long for the phone to start ringing. On the first day of business, we received a new fire loss assignment in Rochester, MN from Pam Lucas of Farmers Insurance Company. This was the first of 180 fires/explosions I investigated the first year in business, so needless to say our vision was coming into fruition. What makes me proud of that moment in time is that Pam Lucas and Farmers Insurance have been clients of WFC since the very first day and still are today!!!

As our new company began to grow during the first few years, it became increasingly apparent that in order to meet the needs of our clients we would need to add staff to our company. Up until that time we used part-time investigators and the administrative tasks were handled by Pam and our two kids who would spend evenings putting photographs in our reports (long before digital photography). Two things I learned from my days at the York Fire Department and Robins Kaplan; (1) surround yourself with excellent people and (2) do what you do best....let someone else do the rest! So over the next 20+ years we embarked on hiring fire investigators that were knowledgeable, educated, trained and had similar core values that this company was founded on.

Whitemore Fire Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Brian Haag was the first full-time fire investigator hired from Woodbury Fire Department who brought his years of experience as a Fire Marshal/Investigator to WFC. Brian started with us in 2001 and remains with us today. He was followed by Doug Noah (Kenyon FD), Brian Whitemore (University of Nebraska/Bloomington FD), Jeff Blomseth (S. St. Paul FD) and Steve Arzdorf (S. St. Paul FD). All of which are long time employees, and ALL remain with WFC today! All of these men work every day representing the interests of our clients on fires/explosions, large and small, throughout North America. And our commitment to our clients is to ensure that we have the most qualified investigators working on their behalf and all are IAAI-CFI certified.

Our administrative staff works in support of the field activities performed by our staff investigators. This staff has also grown in time along with the growth of WFC. The foundation of the company and the administrative staff for the 30 years that WFC has been in existence has been Pam Whitemore, Business Manager and co-owner of Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. Her technical expertise has allowed WFC to grow and prosper into the company that it is today. Not only has she been instrumental in the day-to-day operation of the company, but she has assisted several other companies, churches, non-profits, etc. in working with them on various computer, technical and operational issues.

Managing the hectic pace of the daily/weekly loss assignments and making sure the office functions efficiently is Stacy Wellcome, Office Manager. She has brought to WFC a wealth of



Thirty Years—A Look Back as We Focus Forward (Con't)

experience in the management of other small businesses that she utilizes to assist her in managing the field operational aspects of the company. She is assisted in handling the myriad of administrative tasks that face us each week by Alex Borchardt, Administrative Assistant.

Even though we are considered a small business by most standards, we as a company have prided ourselves in the marketing and charitable contributions WFC has made to the community. Stacy Whitemore Jadin is the Marketing Manager for WFC. She comes from the University of St. Thomas and Paychex as an Account Executive in charge of our marketing efforts. Those efforts include publishing a recall bulletin that outlines some of the CPSC recalls currently taking place involving products that may cause or contribute to a fire/explosion. This monthly bulletin along with our quarterly newsletter, The Fire Line, are sent out to thousands of individuals, companies, fire departments, law enforcement agencies, insurance companies, etc. to keep them abreast of emerging issues in our profession.

Stacy Jadin also assists in overseeing our annual scholarship program for high school and college students who we believe are deserving of receiving a scholarship that may help them achieve their goal of attending a college, university or technical college. Our "Lead by Example" scholarships have been given to dozens of worthy students all over the United States throughout the history of Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. Thus far we have contributed more than \$150,000 investing in the lives of future generations. In addition, we have provided educational opportunities at annual seminars addressing currents issues/trends impacting the fire, legal and insurance industries. We have also provided on site educational programs to a number of insurance companies and corporations throughout the United States to assist their employees in understanding the issues and challenges we face while performing fire/explosion investigations.

During the last 30 years we have had two offices in Prior Lake, MN before moving in 1999 to the Elko/New Market area. We purchased 15 acres and built a warehouse, office and shop/lab to serve the needs of the company. However, it became apparent in recent years that we were rapidly outgrowing this space. So efforts began to attempt to locate a suitable "home" that would serve the next generation.

A little over two years ago we built and moved into our new "home", a state of the art 15,000 square foot headquarters for Whitemore Fire Consultants, Inc. located at 17149 Adelmann Street SE in Prior Lake, MN . This new facility includes a warehouse, 40' x 40' lab, offices, library, conference room, etc. , and it is our hope that this building will be our "home" for many years to come.

Finally, as I look back and I am reminded of the two principles brought with me when we started this company; surround yourself with excellent people and "do what you do best....let someone else do the rest". With respect to the first principle, I can say without hesitation that I have been blessed to have been surrounded by an amazing partner, Pam and two wonderful children, Stacy and Brian; both of which now work for WFC. But in addition to my family, I have also been blessed to have been surrounded by excellent fire investigators and administrative staff that makes this all work. Without them the success that we have achieved would not have been possible. Clearly they all are some of the best in our profession and I am proud to have hired them and to be associated with them.

The second principle; "do what you do best....let someone else do the rest" speaks to the partners and colleagues we have had the privilege of working with the past 30 years. First, all of the behind-the-scenes people that assist WFC each and every day including our banking professionals, accountants, HR staff, insurance brokers, etc. As you all may know, it takes a lot of moving parts to keep a company moving in a forward direction. We are so grateful to all of them for their support through the years.

The second part of the principle ("let someone else do the rest) which I employed in the early days of this company allowed me to focus on what I perceived to be my strength(s) i.e. fire/explosion investigation. In many cases we are asked to manage large and/or complex fire scenes that require a variety of investigative and engineering expertise. Depending on the case, we may require engineering assistance either at our request or at the request of the client. This includes engineering disciplines such as mechanical, electrical, HVAC, chemical, fire protection, metallurgical to name a few. We have been privileged to work with some of the very best engineers that work in this industry. We take this "trust" that a client places with us when they ask us to retain or recommend a specific engineering discipline, very seriously because it is a reflection on us all!

So, this has been a "brief" synopsis of a look back at our last 30 years. Thanks to all the clients, engineering firms, fire departments, police departments, fire marshal's etc. that we have had the privilege of working with. I appreciate you taking time to read my trip down "memory lane" that includes countless stories and thousands of fires/explosions that we have investigated; far too many to talk about.....maybe another time!

Be safe!

Robert B. Whitemore



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BJ's Wholesale Club Recalls Berkley Jensen Citronella Tiki Torches



The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with BJ's Wholesale Club have voluntarily recalled the Berkley Jensen Citronella 72" Tiki Torches. The tiki torch top can break open and/or fall off while lit, posing a burn hazard.

Approximately 90,000 units have been sold exclusively at BJ's Wholesale Club locations nationwide and online at www.bjs.com from January 2015 through November 2023 for about \$13.00.

This recall involves Berkley Jensen 72" Tiki Torches sold at BJ's Wholesale Club. The Tiki Torches are 5" wide and 72" high, or 6" wide and 72" high on a wrought iron stake. The torches were sold with copper-plated, nickel-plated, black or gray tops, with a fiberglass wick.

The firm has received nine reports of the tiki torch top breaking open and/or falling off, resulting in two reports of burn injuries.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled tiki torches and contact BJ's Wholesale Club for a full refund. Consumers should destroy and dispose of or return the tiki torches (with the fuel reservoir empty) to BJ's Wholesale Club to receive a refund.

For more information, please visit www.bjs.com and click on "Product Recalls" at the bottom of the page.



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Crown Boiler Recalls Home Heating Boilers

The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with Crown Boiler Company, LLC of Philadelphia, PA have voluntarily issued a recall of the Crown Aruba IV (AWR Series) gas-fired hot water boilers. The blocked vent switch (BVS) cam fail to shut down the burners if the boilers are installed at altitudes above 2000 feet and the vent system becomes blocked. In such an event, the boiler can emit excessive amounts of carbon monoxide into the building, posing a carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning hazard to consumers.

Approximately 1,100 units were sold by heating and plumbing contractors and wholesale distributors nationwide from July 2012 through December 2023 for between \$2000 and \$4000.

No injuries or incidents have been reported.



Consumers with recalled boilers should immediately contact Crown Boiler for a free repair that includes a free replacement main burner gas orifice, and a free replacement blocked vent switch if needed. Consumers who continue to use the recalled boilers while awaiting repair should have working carbon monoxide alarms installed outside of sleeping areas and on each floor of the home. Consumers can review Protect Your Family from Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (PSC.gov for more information about preventing carbon monoxide poisoning.

For a complete list of the model numbers involved in this recall, please visit www.cpsc.gov and click on "Recalls."







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Black & Decker Garment Steamers Recalled by Empower Brands

The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with Spectrum Brands, Inc. of Middleton, WI, owns subsidiary Empower Brands, LLC has voluntarily issued a recall of all Black & Decker Model HGS011 Easy Garment Steamers. The steamers can expel, spray or leak hot water during use, posing a burn hazard to consumers.

About 1.6 million (518,500 units were previously recalled in November 2022) are involved in this recall and were sold at Walmart, Target, Amazon, Bed Bath & Be-

yond and other stores nationwide, including online at www.walmart.com, www.target.co, www.amazon.com, www.bedbathandbeyond.com and www.blackandecker appliances.com from June 2021 through February 2024 for between \$14 and \$23.

This recall expansion involves all Black+Decker Model HGS011 Easy Garment Steamers, including those that were repaired as part of a previous recall in November 2022. The steamers were sold in a variety of colors. The name BLACK+DECKER is located at the base of the steamer. The steamer measures about 11" high by 6" wide and has a large handle. The model numbers are printed on the bottom of the steamer and on all side of the color package, and UPC codes are printed on the sides, back ad bottom of the color package. For a complete list of the model numbers involved in this recall, please visit: www.cpsc.gov and click on "Recalls."



Since the recall was announced in November 2022, Empower Brands has received 317 reports of hot water expelling from the recalled steamers, including 82 reports of burn injuries, seven of which were second-degree burns. 94 of these incident reports involved units that were repaired as a part of the original recall or models featuring the update design, including 19 burn injuries.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled BLACK+DECKER Model HGS011 Easy Garment Steamers, and contact Empower Brands to receive a full refund. There have been continued reports of burn injuries that were repaired as a part of the previous recall in November 2022. The remedy has now been changed to a refund for all units. Consumers, including those who received a replacement upper assembly as part of the November 2022 recall, should contact Empower Brands for a full refund.

For more information, please visit <u>www.blackanddeckerappliances.com</u> and click on "Safety Notices at the bottom of the page.



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U.S. Boiler Company Recalls Gas-Fired Hot Water Residential Boilers



The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with U.S. Boiler Company, LLC of Lancaster, PA has voluntarily issued a recall of the U.S. Boiler, New Yorker Boiler, Advantage, FORCE and Archer brand gas-fired hot water residential boilers. The blocked vent switch (BVS) can fail to shut down the burners if the boilers are installed at altitudes above 5,400 feet and the vent system becomes blocked. In such event, the boiler can emit excessive amounts of carbon monoxide into the home, posing a carbo monoxide (CO) poisoning hazard.

Approximately 2,500 units were sold at independent heating and plumbing contractors and wholesale distributors nationwide from February 2009 through November 2023 for between \$2000 and \$4000. No injuries or incidents have been reported.

This recall involves gas-fired residential boilers with brand names U.S. Boiler, New

Yorker Boiler, Advantage, FORCE and Archer. For a list of the boiler models involved in this recall, please visit www.cpsc.gov and click on "Recalls." The U.S. boiler ES2 and Series 3 models are blue with a black top front and black vents on the front. The logo is located on the black top from of the boiler. The X-2 model has a solid teal color. The logo is located in the front middle of the boiler. The Lancer model is gray with a blue top. The logo is located in the front middle of the boiler. The FORCE G-3 model is solid gray. The logo is located in the from middle of the boiler. The CGE and CGF models are solid green. The logo is



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Best Buy Recalls Insignia® Air Fryers & Air Ovens Due to Fire

The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with Best Buy of Richfield, Minnesota has voluntarily issued a recall of the Insignia® Air Fryers and Air Ovens. The air fryers can overheat, causing the handles to melt or break, posing fire and burn hazards. Additionally, the air fryer ovens can overheat and the glass on the door can shatter, posing fire, burn and lacerations hazards.

About 187,000 units were sold in the United States at Best Buy stores nation-wide and online at www.bestbuy.com, www.eBay.com, and third-party sellers from November 2021 through November 2023 for between \$32 and \$180. Best Buy has received 24 reports of overheating/melting or glass shattering, including six reports of air fryers catching on fire. No injuries or property damage has been reported.

This recall involves Insignia Air Fryers and Insignia Air Fryer Ovens, model numbers NS-AF34D2, NS-AF5DSS2, NS-AF5MSS2, NS-AFMSS2, NS-AF8DBD2, NS-AF10DBK2, and ND-AF10DSS2. The brand name INSIGNIA is on the top of or front of each unit. A product rating on the underside of each unit identifies the brand INSIGNIA and the model number. The air fryers and air fryer ovens having cooking chamber capacities ranging from 3.4 to 10 quarts and plastic or plastic and stainless steel bodies in black and stainless steel finishes.

Consumers should immediate stop using the recalled air fryers/ovens and visit: https://www.recallrtr.com/airfryer for instructions on how to submit photos of the recalled unit(s), the model number, purchase receipt, and on the destruction of the unit. Consumers can receive a refund in the form of a refund check or a Best Buy store credit.

For more information, please visit www.bestbuy.com and click on "Product Recalls" located under the "Order and Purchase" column at the bottom of the page.







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Honeywell Recalls System Sensor L-Series Due to Failure to Alert of Fire

The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with Honeywell International, Inc. of Charlotte, NC and System Sensor of St. Charles, IL have voluntarily issued a recall of the System Sensor L-series low frequency Sounders and Strobes for residential apartments and commercial buildings.

The sounders and strobes can malfunction and cause the fire alarm system to fail to alert consumers of a fire.

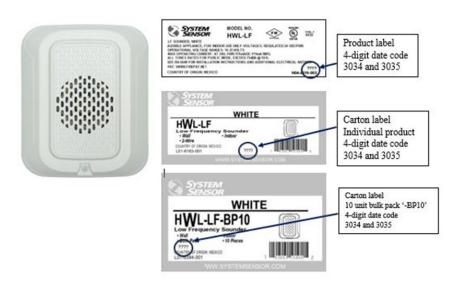
Approximately 29,000 units were sold at Honeywell authorized System Sensor installers and fire equipment distributors nationwide from March 2023 through April 2023 for about \$107.

This recall involves all Honeywell System Sounder L-series Low Frequency Sounders, Sounder Strobes and Compact Sounders. The sounder and strobes are square, with white and red plastic housings, listed for wall mounting and measure about 5.6" x 4.7" for the sounders and strobes and 5.3" x 3.5" for the compact sounder. The model number, date codes and "System Sensor" are printed on the product label and carton. Date codes 3034 and 3035 and the following models are included in this recall: HWL-LF, HWL-LF-BP10, HRL-LF-BP10, HGWL-LF-BP10, P2WL-LF.

Honeywell has received two reports of low or no sound output during installation. No injuries have been reported.

Consumers should contact the firm to arrange for a free inspection and free repair.

For more information please visit: www.SystemSensor.com.





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Anker EverFrost Lithium-Ion Battery Powered Coolers Recalled

The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with Anker Innovations Limited off Hong Kong has voluntarily issued a recall of the EverFrost Battery Powered Coolers. The lithium-ion batteries in the Anker EverFrost Coolers can overheat, posing a fire hazard.

Approximately 5,480 coolers were sold at Best Buy, TD Synnex and other stores nationwide and online at kickstarter.com from May 2023 through September 2023 for between \$250 and \$950.

This recall involves the lithium-ion battery packs in Anker EverFrost Coolers. The coolers are intended for use in outdoor camping, travel and fishing for cooling and freezing food or medicine. They are dark gray with wheels and a drop-down rolling handle. There is a blue charging port for charging by alternative power sources, such as plug in or solar, on one end of the cooler. The name "Anker EverFrost" appears on the side in silver and blue. The model number is printed on the outer surface on the bottom of the cooler. The model numbers involved in this recall include: Anker Detachable Battery Pack for Powered Cooler (Model #A17B0), Anker EverFrost Powered Coolers 30 (Model A17A0), Anker EverFrost Powered Coolers 40 (Model #A17A1), and Anker EverFrost Powered Coolers 50, (Model #A17A2).

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled coolers and contact Anker for a free replacement lithium-ion battery pack. For more information, please visit: https://www.anker.com/anker-solix/cooler-battery-recall-pps to file or claim. Recalled lithium-ion batteries should be disposed of in accordance with any local or states laws and not in the trash.

