



## **Wilson County Development Services** **Codes & Zoning Department**

### **“Katie Beth’s Law”**

#### **State of Tennessee Requirements for Swimming Pool Alarms**

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-801 thru 807**

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-801. Short title.**

This part shall be known and may be cited as "Katie Beth's Law."

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-802. Part definitions.**

For purposes of this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Pool alarm" means a device which emits a sound of at least fifty decibels (50 dB) when a person or an object weighing fifteen pounds (15 lbs.) or more enters the water in a swimming pool, but shall not include swimming protection alarm devices designed for individual use, such as an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water;
- (2) "Residential dwelling" means a one-family or two-family dwelling structure; and
- (3) "Swimming pool" means any structure that is intended for swimming or recreational bathing and contains water over thirty-six inches (36") deep, including, but not limited to, in-ground, aboveground, and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and nonportable spas.

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-803. Prominent sign by sellers of pools regarding alarm requirement.**

Each person, enterprise, agency or entity that sells swimming pools to the general public shall post in a prominent place a sign, at least six inches (6") high and fourteen inches (14") wide, that reads as follows:

STATE LAW REQUIRES A POOL ALARM BE INSTALLED.

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-804. Alarm requirement in pools.**

Each person, enterprise, agency or entity that purchases or acquires a swimming pool to be installed after January 1, 2011, shall install and maintain a pool alarm before using or making available for use such swimming pool.

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-805. Alarm installation required for final approval of electrical wiring and for building permit -- Offense.**

- (a) When an electrical inspection is required for approval of the wiring of a swimming pool, the electrical inspector shall not give final approval for such electrical wiring unless a hard-wired swimming pool alarm has been properly installed or the person, enterprise, agency or entity who has acquired the pool provides written proof that a battery-operated pool alarm has been purchased.
- (b) (1) No local government shall issue a building permit for the construction or substantial alteration of a swimming pool located at a residential dwelling unless the project calls for a functioning swimming pool alarm to be installed prior to the completion of the construction project.
- (2) It is an offense for any person, firm, association or corporation to knowingly accept a building permit for a swimming pool located at a residential dwelling unless a functioning swimming pool alarm will be installed prior to the completion of the construction project.

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-806. Violations -- Punishment.**

A violation of this part is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine only not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100). Second and subsequent offenses shall be punishable by a fine only of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

#### **Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-14-807. Exceptions.**

This part shall not apply to public swimming pools or multi-family residential housing swimming pools, as defined in § 68-14-302.