



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA, MD 20814
ACTING CHAIRMAN PETER A. FELDMAN

September 25, 2026

Dear State Fire Marshal:

I am writing to ask for your assistance in addressing the serious and continuing fire-safety hazard posed by recalled fire sprinkler heads that remain installed in homes, businesses, and other buildings across the country.

In July 2001, CPSC and Central Sprinkler Company (“Central Sprinkler”) announced the recall of approximately 35 million fire sprinkler heads equipped with O-ring seals. The recalled sprinklers can fail to activate during a fire, creating the risk that a building’s primary fire-suppression system will not operate when lives depend on it. At the time of the recall, Central Sprinkler established a voluntary replacement program providing replacement sprinklers and installation at no cost to consumers. That program ended in 2007, but a substantial number of these recalled sprinkler heads were never replaced. CPSC estimates that millions of the recalled sprinkler heads remain installed today, creating a continuing risk of serious injury or death if they fail to operate during a fire.

The danger is not theoretical. On July 13, 2025, a fire at an assisted living facility in Fall River, Massachusetts, killed ten residents and injured dozens more. Recalled Central Sprinkler heads were subsequently identified at the facility, including in the area where the fire originated. A sprinkler in the room of origin failed to activate, despite its having been flagged as subject to the recall during an earlier fire-safety inspection. The tragedy underscores the urgent need to identify and address recalled sprinklers before another failure occurs.

CPSC and Tyco Fire Products LP (“Tyco Fire”), which now owns the Central Sprinkler business, are undertaking a [renewed national effort](#) to identify remaining recalled sprinkler heads and alert building owners and the public to this hazard. State and local fire officials are essential partners in that effort.

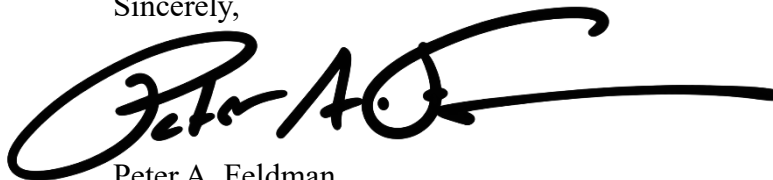
Specifically, I ask that your office assist this effort by taking the following actions:

- Alert fire departments, inspectors, building owners, facility managers, and other relevant stakeholders to the continuing presence of these recalled sprinklers;

- Encourage building owners and responsible officials to determine whether recalled sprinkler heads remain installed and, where they are found, take appropriate steps to remove or replace them; and
- Distribute CPSC and Tyco Fire [recall information](#) through your existing fire-safety and public-information channels.

Nearly twenty-five years after this recall was announced, no family should discover the existence of a recalled fire sprinkler only after it fails when it is needed most. CPSC is committed to identifying these products and seeing that they are removed from service. We appreciate your cooperation in that effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter A. Feldman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter A. Feldman
Acting Chairman
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission