



PUBLIC POLICY ALERT

Comcast Xfinity Undermines Massachusetts Life-Safety Laws

People's lives, homes and businesses can depend on effective security and fire alarm systems, collectively known as "life-safety" systems. That's why Massachusetts regulates and licenses life-safety system companies and their technicians.

The rules are clear: in Massachusetts all life-safety systems companies, and their technicians, must be licensed. Every system they install must be inspected for code-compliance by local authorities. Earning a license takes years of education and training. Maintaining a license requires continuing education to keep up with the latest technologies and building codes. Furthermore, every employee of a security systems company in Massachusetts has to pass a CORI criminal background check and obtain a state Public Safety Certificate of Clearance every two years.

Comcast has disregarded these laws and regulations by selling its Xfinity Home security system in Massachusetts without earning the proper licenses, without applying for permits and inspections, and without subjecting all of their security staff to criminal background checks.

State and municipal officials have ordered Comcast to stop this illegal activity, but the company has refused and is now suing Massachusetts, arguing that it should be exempt from the laws and regulations developed over several decades to protect public safety.

The Massachusetts System Contractors Association (MSCA) strongly supports the state's licensing and regulatory framework.

The public interest at stake is clear: only qualified and trained people should be allowed to install and maintain life-safety systems in Massachusetts.

The MSCA is the educational and advocacy organization for the life-safety systems industry. We represent the hundreds of companies and thousands of employees in Massachusetts who are dedicated to protecting the public with advanced life-safety systems. Our members are large and small firms, united by a shared commitment to obeying the law and fostering high standards for our industry.