Ohio Department of Health NFPA 2012
Life Safety Code Tips Sheet

This document is used for frequently cited Life Safety Code violations. This is not an all-inclusive list and is intended for reference only.

I. K353 Sprinkler System Maintenance and Testing:

Sprinkler heads dirty or corroded

Lack of spare sprinkler heads or wrench

Automatic sprinkler and standpipe systems are inspected, tested, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25.

9.7.5, 9.7.7, 9.7.8, and NFPA 25

II. K712 Fire Drills:

One fire drill per shift per quarter

Fire drill at not conducted at varying times or conditions

A fire drill conducted at shift change only counts as one drill

Where drills are conducted between 9:00 PM and 6:00 AM, a coded announcement may be used instead of audible alarms.

18.7.1.4 through 18.7.1.7, 19.7.1.4 through 19.7.1.7

III. K920 Electrical Equipment Power Strips and Extension Cords:

Must be the correct UL listed type for personal or medical use

Power strips used within 6’ of resident’s bed

Cannot be interconnected “Daisy-chained” to increase length
Cannot be used as permanent wiring

Power strips for patient-care-related electrical equipment (PCREE) meet UL 1363A or UL 60601-1. Power strips for non-PCREE in the patient care rooms (outside of vicinity) meet UL 1363

10.2.4. 10.2.3.6 (NFPA 99), 10.2.4 (NFPA 99), 400-8 (NFPA 70), 590.3(D) (NFPA 70), TIA 12-5

IV. K372 Subdivision of Building spaces:

Penetrations in the smoke barrier

Smoke dampers maintenance

19.3.7.3, 8.6.7.1(1)

V. K363 Corridor Doors:

Wedges to keep doors open prohibited

Door gaps greater than 1/8” prohibited

Failure of the corridor door to positively latch into the frame

VI. K321 Hazardous Areas:

Proper door rating and one hour separation

No self-closure on the door

Penetrations in the compartment

Storage of combustible materials

Doors wedged open

18.3.2.1, 7.2.1.8, 8.4, 8.7, 9.7 Area, Automatic Sprinkler, Separation

a. Boiler and Fuel-Fired Heater Rooms

b. Laundries (larger than 100 square feet)
c. Repair, Maintenance, and Paint Shops

d. Soiled Linen Rooms (exceeding 64 gallons)

e. Trash Collection Rooms (exceeding 64 gallons)

f. Combustible Storage Rooms/Spaces (over 50 and less than 100 square feet)

g. Combustible Storage Rooms/Spaces (over 50 square feet)

h. Laboratories (if classified as Severe Hazard)

VII. K222 Egress Doors:

More than one action to open

Lack of proper signage (push 15 secs door will open)

Delayed egress not releasing as it should

Painted doors (dementia units)

Missing fire label on door/door frame

Wedged open

Damaged doors

VIII. K345 Fire Alarm Testing and Maintenance:

Not dialing out to a monitoring company

System in trouble

Not serviced or lack of records at the time of survey

Lack of records of the facility testing the FAP at time of survey

Lack of knowledge of the facilities own system

NFPA 70, National Electric Code, and NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code. Records of system acceptance, maintenance and testing are readily available. 9.7.5, 9.7.7, 9.7.8, and NFPA 25
IX. K741 Smoking Regulations:

Cigarette butts on the ground in smoking and non-smoking areas (mulch)
Lack of signage (No smoking)
Combustible ashtrays instead of non-combustible
No metal container with self-closing lids to empty the full ashtrays into
18.7.4, 19.7.4

X. K923 Gas and Cylinder Storage:

Improper enclosure for amount stored
No separation from full/empties
Free standing cylinders not on a cart/rack
Lack of ventilation if greater than 3000sqft
No self-closure on door
No lock on door
No signage letting people know Oxygen is being stored (No smoking)
Storage 5.1.3.3.2 and 5.1.3.3.3
11.6.2, 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.3.3, 11.3.4, 11.6.5 (NFPA 99)

XI. K351 Sprinkler System Installation:

Elevator pits not being sprinklered
Lack of monitoring of system
Escutcheon Plates not installed/missing
Mixed heads in the same compartment
Lack of heads in concealed spaces
No spare heads/wrench
NFPA 13
18.3.5.1, 18.3.5.4, 18.3.5.5, 18.3.5.6, 9.7, 9.7.1.1(1), 18.3.5.10

XII. K511 Utilities Gas and Electric:
Open Junction boxes
Extension cords/power-strips used as permanent wiring
No bollards around propane/tanks
NFPA 54
NFPA 70
18.5.1.1, 19.5.1.1, 9.1.1, 9.1.2

XIII. K918 Electrical Systems:
Not doing the weekly inspections (belts/oil/batteries)
Does not transfer within 10 seconds (verified by documentation now we do not test)
Panels and circuits are not marked/labeled
Not doing monthly load test to meet the nameplate rating or load bank tests (4hrs)
No Letter of Reliability for natural gas generators
NFPA 110
NFPA 111
6.4.4, 6.5.4, 6.6.4 (NFPA 99), NFPA 110, NFPA 111, 700.10 (NFPA 70)
XIV. **K901 Fundamentals Building System Categories:**

Building systems are designed to meet Category 1 through 4 requirements as detailed in NFPA 99. Categories are determined by a formal and documented risk assessment procedure performed by qualified personnel. Chapter 4 (NFPA 99)

XV. **K226 Horizontal Exit:**

To narrow (not less than 32”)

Storage in exit

Horizontal exits, if used, are in accordance with 7.2.4 and the provisions of 18.2.2.5.1 through 18.2.2.5.7, or 19.2.2.5.1 through 19.2.2.5.4. 18.2.2.5, 19.2.2.5

XVI. **K161 Building Construction Type and Height:**

Penetrations in the fire barrier

Attics not sprinkler or have fire retardant treated lumber

Large penetrations affecting the construction of the building

Building construction type and stories meets Table 19.1.6.1, unless otherwise permitted by 19.1.6.2 through 19.1.6.7 19.1.6.4, 19.1.6.5

XVII. **K271: Discharge from Exits:**

No hard path to public way

Not level

Obstructed (snow/ice/storage)

Not illuminated

7.7, 7.1.7, 18.2.7, 19.2.7, S&C 05-38

XVIII. **K521 HVAC:**

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Smoke/Fire Dampers not being maintained.installed correctly

Corridors used as a plenum

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning shall comply with 9.2 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications. 18.5.2.1, 19.5.2.1, 9.2

XIX. K324 Cooking Facilities:

Not maintain UL300 systems

Moving appliances around without manufacturer guidance

No Class K extinguisher

Lack of smoke detection

Lack of training for kitchen staff in the event of an emergency (RACE)

Doors wedged open


18.3.2.5.2, 19.3.2.5.2, 18.3.2.5.3, 19.3.2.5.3, 18.3.2.5.4, 19.3.2.5.4. 18.3.2.5.1 through 18.3.2.5.4, 19.3.2.5.1 through 19.3.2.5.5, 9.2.3

XX. K711 Evacuation and Relocation Plan:

Unable to produce plan at the time of the survey

Corporate plan not tailored to specific facility

18.7.1.1 through 18.7.1.3, 18.7.2.1.2, 18.7.2.2, 18.7.2.3, 19.7.1.1 through 19.7.1.3, 19.7.2.1.2, 19.7.2.2, 19.7.2.3