Augusta University

Annual Fire Safety Report for Campus Housing

August 19, 2014

This report contains information related to fire safety in campus housing at Georgia Regents University (GRU), in accordance with the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. The GRU Fire Safety Office creates this report annually, relying on information provided by collaborative partners, including but not limited to the GRU Department of Public Safety, and the Housing and Residence Life Department.

The GRU Fire Safety Office maintains the campus housing Fire Log and reports fire statistics annually in conjunction with the “Annual Crime Report” which provides information in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Crime Statistics Act.


Fire Statistics & Fire Log

The Georgia Regents University Fire Safety Office maintains the campus housing Fire Log and all statistics on fires and related injuries, death, and loss in campus housing as defined by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 in section 668.49.

For the calendar years 2007, 2008, 2009, there were no fires reported in campus housing at Georgia Regents University. From 2010 to present, five fires have occurred in campus housing, all minor fires involving unattended cooking. No injuries have occurred as a result of these fires, and property damage was less than $ 500.00 in each incident.

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**Fire Safety Systems**

Residence IV (DB) is a fully sprinkled residence. It also has smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes, and fire extinguishers located throughout the building. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Residents are advised to call Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

Residence V Bldg. A (DC) is not a fire sprinkled residence. It has individual room smoke detectors that are not part of the building fire alarm system. The fire alarm system has pull stations with audible alarms and strobes, and is not monitored by GRU Public Safety. Fire Extinguishers are provided throughout the building. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

Residence V Bldg. B (DD) is not a fire sprinkled residence. It has individual room smoke detectors that are not part of the building fire alarm system. The fire alarm system has pull stations with audible alarms and strobes, and is not monitored by GRU Public Safety. Fire Extinguishers are provided throughout the building. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

Residence V Bldg. C (DE) is not a fire sprinkled residence. It has individual room smoke detectors that are not part of the building fire alarm system. The fire alarm system has pull stations with audible alarms and strobes, and is not monitored by GRU Public Safety. Fire Extinguishers are provided throughout the building. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

Residence V Bldg. D (DF) is not a fire sprinkled residence. It has individual room smoke detectors that are not part of the building fire alarm system. The fire alarm system has pull stations with audible alarms and strobes, and is not monitored by GRU Public Safety. Fire Extinguishers are provided throughout the building. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.
Alumni Center Residence (FI) is not a fire sprinkled residence. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building fire alarm system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided throughout the building. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

Residence VI (FM) is not a fire sprinkled residence. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building fire alarm system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided throughout the building. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

University Village Building 1000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

University Village Building 2000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

University Village Building 3000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

University Village Building 4000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

University Village Building 5000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by GRU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the
residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

All common use kitchens in Residence Halls on the Health Science Campus are provided with 10 lb. ABC Fire Extinguishers. All common use kitchen doors are provide with positive latching and fire rated doors.

All fire alarm systems are checked and maintained on an annual basis. Fire Sprinkler systems are checked and maintained on a semi-annual basis by an outside vendor. Sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers are inspected by the Georgia Regents University Fire Safety Office monthly.

**Fire Drills**

Mandatory supervised fire drills are conducted 4 times a year, during fall, winter, summer, and spring semesters. Fire Drills were conducted on the following dates:

- **Alumni Center** – 09/03/2013, 11/14/2013, 01/13/2014, 06/10/2014
- **Residence IV** – 09/03/2013, 11/25/2013, 02/27/2014, 06/10/2014
- **Residence V** – 09/03/2013, 11/25/2013, 02/27/2014, 06/10/2014
- **Residence VI** – 09/03/2013, 11/04/2013, 02/27/2014, 06/10/2014
- **University Village** – 11/25/2013, 02/01/2014, 04/17/2014

Fire Drills are conducted by the GRU Fire Safety Office, and all reports and statistical data are monitored. Details of the fire drill are sent to Campus Life Services. University Village buildings were returned to campus management on April 1, 2014. Resident Assistants (when present) assist with the orderly and timely evacuation of the building and directing students to the designated evacuation site. Students failing to evacuate or participate are noted in the fire drill report that is sent to Housing and Residence Life Services.

A post-drill review is conducted with all staff and residents to discuss the success of the drill and additional actions that may be necessary for future drills.

**Procedures for Evacuation of Campus Housing**

All students receive an evacuation destination notice with safety tips from GRU Housing and Residence Life upon checking into campus housing. Evacuation routes and destination maps are posted on the back of all unit doors. The route also identifies exits, stairwells, fire alarm pull stations, and fire extinguisher locations.

Common area evacuation diagrams are posted throughout all campus housing facilities, in compliance of with applicable fire codes. All designated evacuation locations are located at least 100 feet from the specific campus housing facility.
Building schematics and emergency information are provided to GRU Public Safety and the Augusta Richmond County Fire Department for emergency pre-planning activities. This information is updated on an annual basis by the GRU Fire Safety Office. Updated information is given in the form of a CD for agency use.

**Policies on Portable Appliances, Smoking, and Open Flames in Campus Housing**

Policies concerning fire safety in campus housing can be found at: [http://www.gru.edu/housing/](http://www.gru.edu/housing/). Additional fire safety information can be found at [http://www.gru.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/](http://www.gru.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/). Georgia Regents University (GRU) policy 4.4.03 outlines procedures in the event of fires on campus and in student residences. GRU policy 4.4.01 outlines usage of electrical equipment and appliances on campus. GRU policy 4.4.04 details the decoration and interior lighting safety for the campus.

**Guidelines for Fire Safety in Student Residences**

Smoking: Smoking is not permitted on property that is owned or leased by Georgia Regents University.

Furnishings: Apartments and rooms are required to have as low a combustible load as practicable. This means self-renovations such as adding wood paneling to walls and constructing wooden furniture is not allowed.

Extension cords: **Outlet extenders and permanent extension cords are not allowed.** All surge protectors are required to be off the floor to keep the cords and housing from being damaged.

Storage: Improper storage of any materials is a serious violation of State fire codes. Storage is not allowed in heating and air conditioning closets or stairwells. Items blocking electrical panels and doors is a State Fire Code violation.

Candles: candles are not allowed in student housing.

Decorations: Paper decorations on doors, ceilings, or walls, and live Christmas trees anywhere are not allowed.

Appliances: Space heaters are not allowed in campus housing. Permitted appliances are outlined in the Residence Hall living guidebook.

Unattended cooking: Hot plates are not allowed in student residences. Students must be present when using common area kitchens to cook.

Fire Safety Equipment: Tampering with or the misuse of fire safety equipment is prohibited. This includes removing or disabling a smoke detector. If a smoke detector battery needs to be replaced, students should contact Housing and Residence Life at (706) 729-2900. Fire Safety equipment includes, but is not limited to fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and unit door closures. Anyone found vandalizing or using fire safety equipment for any purpose other than safety will be reported to GRU Public Safety. Additional fire safety information may be obtained from Environmental Health and Safety Division web site at [http://www.gru.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/](http://www.gru.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/).
Fire Safety Education and Training Programs

All GRU Resident Assistants are trained on a yearly basis by the Fire Safety Office. Resident Assistants are trained based on fire safety protocols based on issues related to campus residences. All Freshman students assigned to University Village receive fire safety training the week of Freshman Orientation. This training includes the proper usage of Fire Extinguishers. All students are trained using the BullEx Fire Extinguisher Simulator.

Fire (Code Red) procedures for campus housing are as follows:

IN CASE OF FIRE:

1. Do not panic; remain calm.
2. Remove persons in immediate danger of the fire. If not already closed, close door to room affected.
3. If room is smoky, get on hands and knees (or stomach) and crawl to door.
4. Feel door knob; if hot do not open door; if cool, open door slowly.
5. If hallway is smoky, stay next to the wall and count the doors as you crawl to exit.
6. Activate the nearest fire alarm box and call the GRU Public Safety Division at 706-721-2911. Give the location and kind of fire.
7. Calmly notify other occupants in the area.
8. Do not prop open doors to exit stairways.
9. If possible, attempt to extinguish the fire with the fire extinguisher provided in your area.
10. Once out of the area, do not return to the building for any reason.

Students are required to demonstrate these procedures when fire drills are conducted by the GRU Fire Safety Office. Any student not demonstrating the proper procedures are given remedial instruction on proper procedures.

Reporting of Fire Safety Information
All fire safety concerns should be immediately reported to GRU Public Safety at 706-721-2911, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Information related to fire safety reporting for campus housing should be submitted to the GRU Fire Safety Office at 706-721-2663.

**Plans for Future Improvements in Fire Safety**

There are currently no improvements planned in the area of Life Safety and Fire Safety Equipment for current Student Housing at GRU. Georgia Regents University plans to open new Student Housing in the fall of 2016, and these units will meet all National, State and Local Fire Codes. The GRU Fire Safety Office continues to heighten fire safety awareness in Campus Housing by training and increased inspections. The GRU Fire Safety Office will continue these activities in the future.