



Justin Daniels
President

January 10, 2023

Alan Sactor
Vice President

Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association (FEMA) Government Relations Committee
1300 Sumner Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44115
fema@femalifesafety.org

Kevin
McSweeney
Treasurer

Re: Support of Layered Fire Safety and Protection

Michael Swain
Past President
& Director

To the FEMA Government Relations Committee:

Robert Ferrara
Director

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Campus Fire Safety (CCFS) in support of the placement of portable fire extinguishers in all higher education institutional buildings, including, educational classrooms, office buildings and residential housing.

Douglas Gazzale
Director

CCFS is a non-profit, membership based, organization devoted to reducing the loss of life from fire at our nation's campuses. We serve as the focal point for the efforts of a number of organizations and also as a clearinghouse for information relating to campus fire and life safety. We are the voice of over 4,000 campus fire and life safety officials. Our mission is to be the national leader for improved fire and life safety at all colleges and universities by providing resources and educational programs to the greater campus community, and by assessing and promoting proposals for changes in national model codes, industry, and reference standards as they relate to college and university infrastructure. At the end of the day, our vision is to eliminate the loss of life and property associated with campus related fire incidents through systems comprised of education, engineering, and enforcement.

Larry Labbe
Director

Jody Nolan
Director

James Rainer
Director

Rodger Reiswig
Director

Richard Roberts
Director

CCFS encourages all higher education institutions to follow adopted codes, standards, and best practices for providing fire protection systems and equipment, which may include portable fire extinguishers where applicable. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), U.S. fire departments responded to an annual average of 4,100 structure fires in dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and other related properties from 2011 to 2015. These fires caused an annual average of 35 civilian injuries and \$14 million in direct property damage. Furthermore, the U.S. Fire Administration [reports](#) that from 2000 to 2015, 85 fatal fires occurred in dormitories, fraternities, sororities and off- campus housing, resulting in 118 fatalities.

Seth Statler
Director

Fire extinguishers are the first line of defense for small, controllable fires and are designed to operate easily for the novice user. They are intended to be used for fires of limited size and easily controlled. If a fire is discovered in its early stages, the most effective means of protecting life and

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preventing property loss is to sound the alarm and then to control and/or extinguish the incipient stage fire with a portable fire extinguisher. To simply wait for the fire to grow large enough in size for a sprinkler head to activate, is contrary to lessons and guidance from fire service and fire protection professionals.

Justin Daniels
President, CCFS (Center for Campus Fire Safety)

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