



## ALCA Opportunities

- **Voting Membership** (\$50) for Non-Profit Organizations  
Subscribing to ALCA's Principles
- **Supporting Membership** (\$50) for Others (Organizations or  
Individuals) Subscribing to ALCA's Principles
- **Donations** also welcome; although webinars are free to  
attendees, they involve much work by ALCA members.
- Membership application on ALCA website; mail to ALCA, c/o  
LTCCC, 242 West 30th Street, Suite 306, New York, NY 10001



## **The Assisted Living Consumer Alliance**

In conjunction with the

**National LTC Ombudsman Resource Center**

Presents

# **FIRE SAFETY IN ASSISTED LIVING**

January 28, 2008



# Agenda

- Welcome
  - **Lori Smetanka**, ALCA Board Member and NORC Director
- Overview of ALCA
  - **Eric Carlson**, President, ALCA
- Presentations
  - **Jim Dolan**, Fire Code Regional Director
  - **Nancy McNabb**, Director, Government Affairs, National Fire Protection Association
  - **Rick Harris**, Director, Bureau of Health Provider Standards, Alabama Department of Public Health
- Questions and Discussion



# Rick Harris

Director

Bureau of Health Provider Standards

Alabama Department of Public  
Health



# For more information:

- National Fire Protection Association
  - [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)
- Assisted Living Consumer Alliance
  - [www.assistedlivingconsumers.org](http://www.assistedlivingconsumers.org)
- National LTC Ombudsman Resource Center
  - [www.ltcombudsman.org](http://www.ltcombudsman.org)

# Fire Safety in Assisted Living



# NFPA

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- Our Mission: Reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training and education.

# NFPA Resources

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- Escape planning for older adults

<http://www.nfpa.org/>

- Remembering When Older Adults Program

<http://www.nfpa.org>



# NFPA Background

- NFPA founded in 1896
  - Automatic sprinkler systems, fire pumps, water storage tanks, electricity
  - Property loss focus
  
- NFPA 101
  - ASCH fire, NYC march 1911 (Triangle Shirtwaist Fire)
  - 142 fatalities
  - 1913 (first edition)- Predecessor to NFPA 101 accepted by NFPA Board and membership
  
- Continuous updates to NFPA 101 resulting from new concepts & technology, fire investigations

# NFPA Codes & Standards Process

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- Uniquely open process
- All interested parties can participate
  - AHCA, ASHE, IFMA, CMS, VA, JC
- Balanced
- Based on consensus

*Public safety is everybody's business*

# NFPA & CMS

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- Department of Health, Education and Welfare
  - 1970-Social Security Act
    - Mandatory compliance with NFPA 101-1967
    - Equally applicable to new and existing
- CMS
  - Updated code compliance for 1976, 1985, 2000 editions of NFPA 101

# NFPA Life Safety

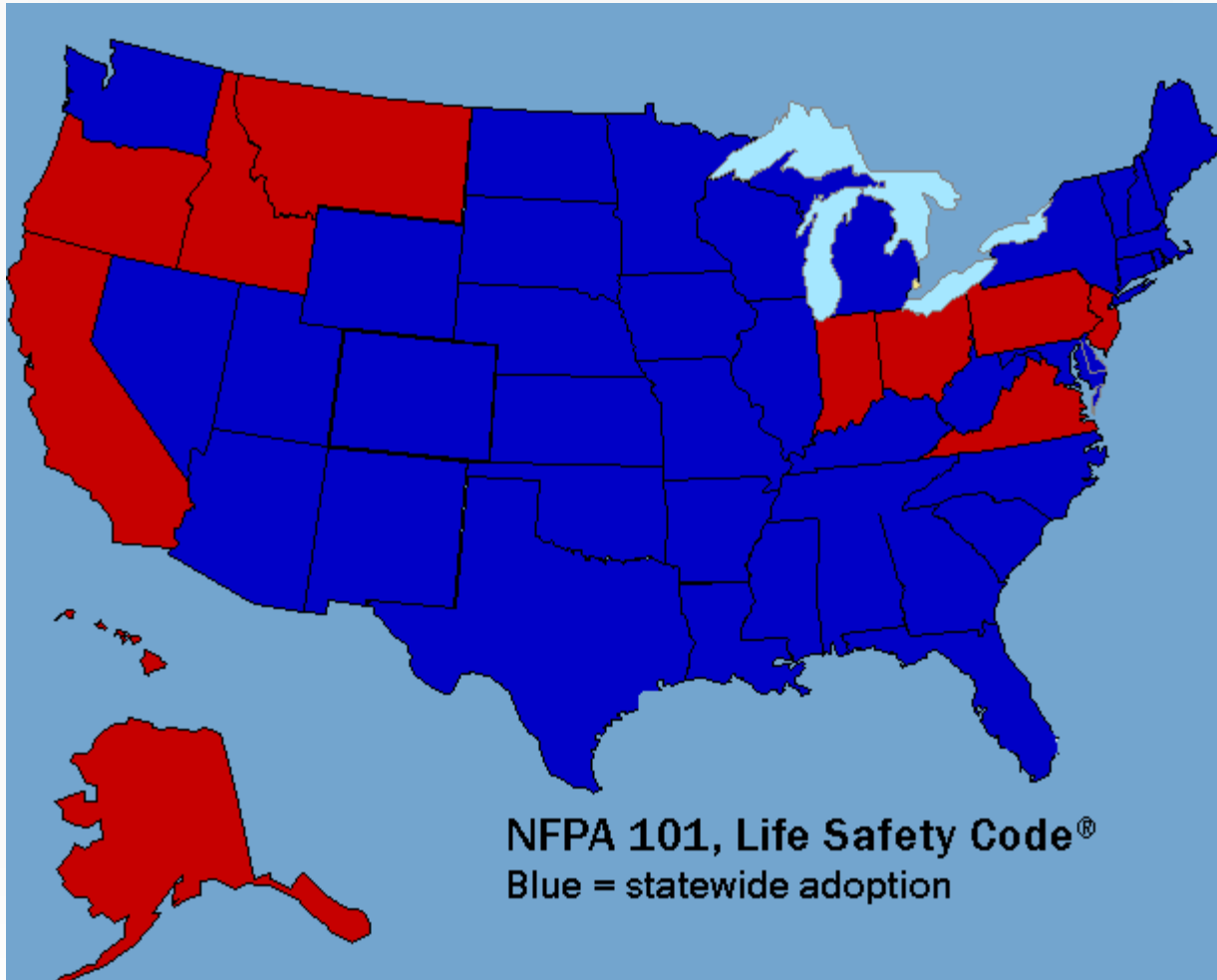
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- Goals and Objectives
  - Reasonable safety
    - Protect occupants 'not intimate with ignition'
  - Limit fire spread
  - Reduce need for occupant relocation
- "Total Concept" to achieve these goals and objectives

# NFPA Life Safety

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- Design, construction, compartmentation
  - Structural, layout, arrangement, materials
- Detection, alarm, extinguishment
  - Fire alarm system, sprinkler system
- Fire prevention, planning, training, drilling
  - Staff, procedures, movement of occupants



# Overview State & National Level

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- NFPA 101 Life Safety Code
  - Adopted in 37 states
  - Extensive tools for existing buildings
- Building Codes
  - New construction
    - Occupants are capable of responding to an emergency without physical assistance
    - Less than 16 occupants-construction same as one family dwelling
    - Suppression required in all new

# Residential Care Occupancies

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- Residential care occupancies take many forms: assisted living facilities, halfway houses, retirement homes, rooming houses, and community living centers, among others. Regardless of the label, the level of care that is provided is the key to identifying a residential board and care facility.



# Small Facilities



# Evacuation Capability

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- Applies to existing only
- Facility management required to furnish
  - where not furnished classify as impractical
- See NFPA 101A for an evacuation capability methodology

# Construction Requirements

	Existing	New
Prompt	No Requirements	No Requirements
Slow	Limits imposed if NS	No Requirements
Impractical	Not unprotected unless AS	No Requirements

# Means of Escape

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- Applies within resident room
- Primary means of escape - door to public corridor or outside
- Secondary means of escape – outside window or door to the outside

# Means of Escape



# Primary Means of Escape

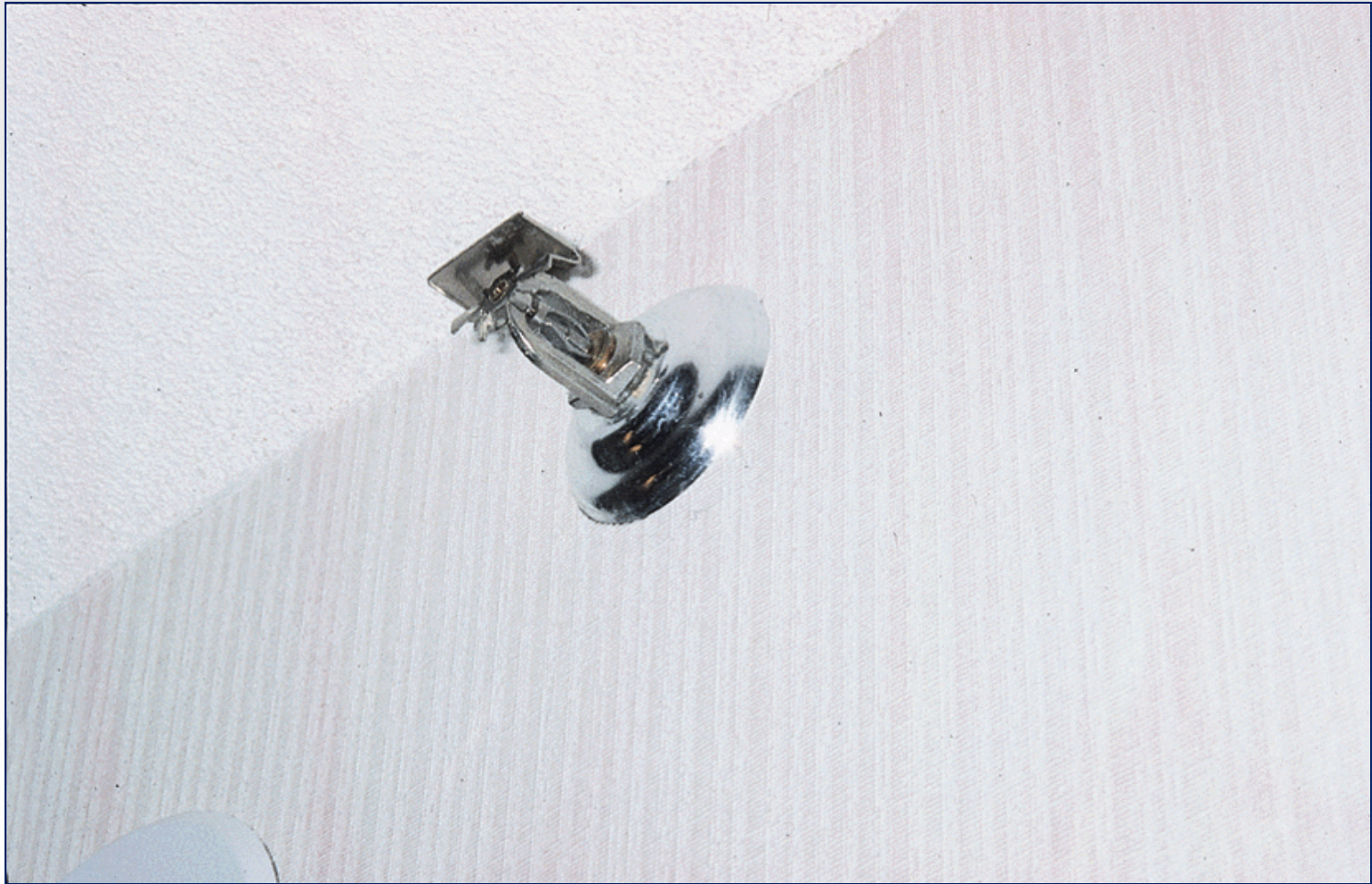




# Protection from Hazards



# Automatic Sprinklers





# Corridor Wall Construction



# Large Facilities



# Evacuation Capability

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- Existing Impractical = Limited Care complying with Chapter 19
- Can use Chapter 18 see 33.1.1.2

# Minimum Construction Requirements





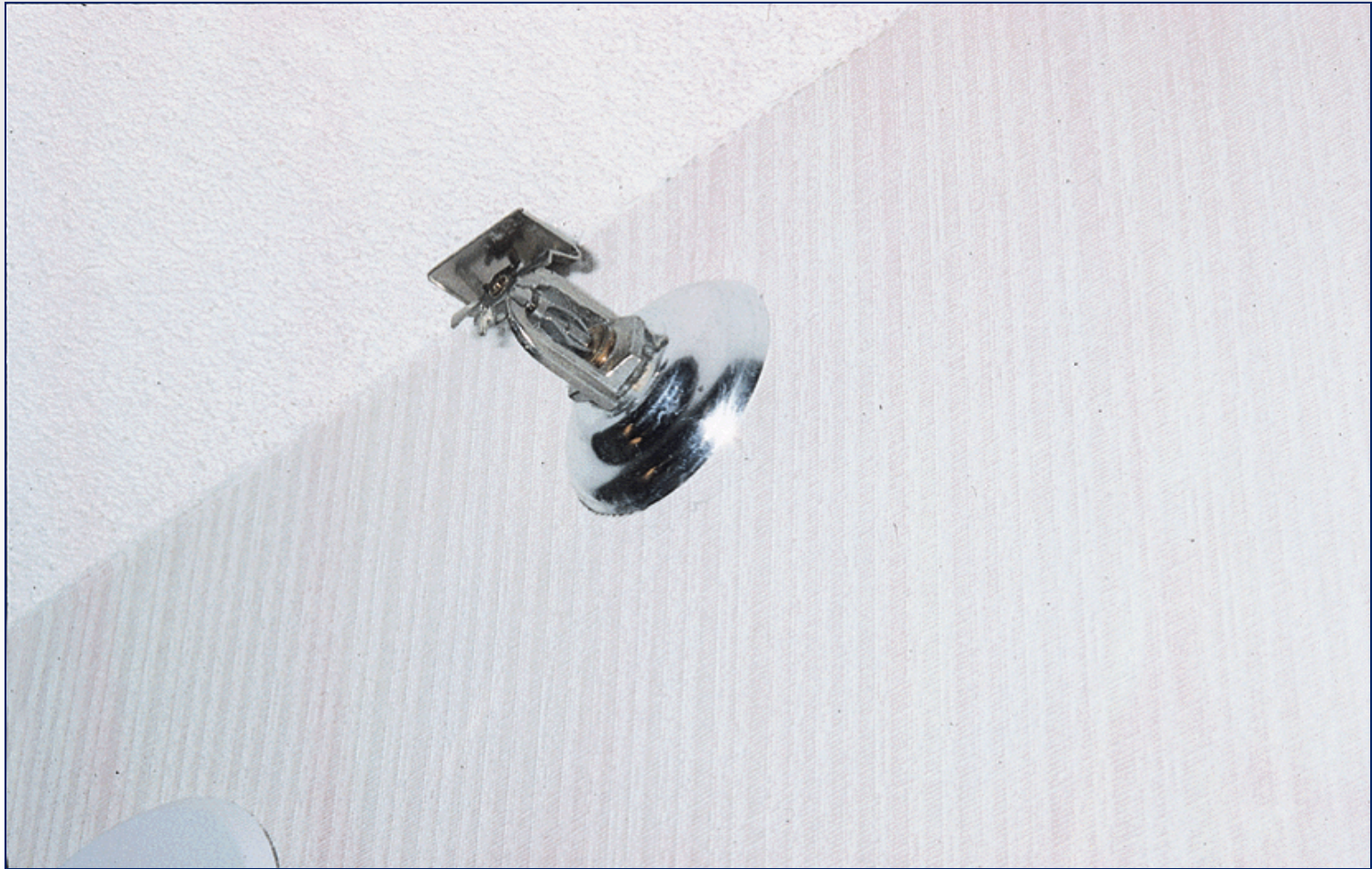
# Smoke Alarms



# Smoke Detection



# Automatic Sprinklers





# Corridors





# Operating Features

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- Emergency Plan
- Resident Training
- Emergency Egress and Relocation Drills
- Smoking
- Furnishings
- Staff
- Inspection of Door Openings

# Questions?

