How to Talk with Your Local Fire Inspecting Authority

Before you can utilize the categorical waivers that have already been approved by CMS and AHCA, you must gain the approval of your local fire inspecting authority. This is not AHCA. It is the Local Fire Inspecting Authority or Fire Department:

Set up a meeting with your local fire inspecting authority who inspects your building for the city, county, or municipality fire or building department. Every local jurisdiction is different so you will need to meet with the person who can approve “Alternate Methods of Compliance”.

Remember, this person must ordinarily enforce the 2009 edition of the LSC until December 31, 2014. But to take advantage of these revisions now you will need to get him or her on board with you.

Give him or her a copy of the Brochure for Culture Change Revisions and explain how important these revisions are to all the elders who live in your home.

Tell him these revisions are “stand-alone” revisions and do not depend on other revisions in the 2012 edition of the code.

Show him or her the section of the code that permits the acceptance of an alternate method of compliance. Since this will be accepted in a few months (December 31, 2014) show him or her the alternate method of compliance is acceptable because it has already been reviewed by the state Fire Marshal and will be adopted and enforce at the end of this year.

Tell him or her about the waivers from the state and federal agencies.