

## SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

### 2009 FIRE SAFETY REPORT

#### **Overview**

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (PL 110-315) became law in August 2008, requiring all United States academic institutions to produce an annual fire safety report outlining the fire safety practices, standards, and all fire-related student housing statistics. The following public disclosure report details all information required by this law as it relates to Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, OK.

#### **I. General Statement of University Owned/Controlled Student Housing**

Southern Nazarene University's 4 Residence Halls (Bracken, Garey, Hatley, and Snowbarger halls) are completely covered by a State Fire Marshall approved and regularly inspected fire alarm systems which are monitored 24 hours/day, seven days/week via Campus Security dispatch. All of the Residence Halls are covered by automatic fire suppression sprinkler systems.

Imel townhouses are covered by a State Fire Marshall approved and regularly inspected fire alarm system which are monitored 24 hours/day, seven days/week via Campus Security dispatch. Imel townhouses are covered by automatic fire suppression sprinkler systems.

Asbury and Chapman apartment buildings have battery operated, smoke detectors located in each individual living unit. Smoke detectors are tested and batteries replaced as needed (at least annually) four times each year.

For the 2009-2010 year, the University contracted with Prairie Springs Apartments (9777 North Council Rd. Oklahoma City, 73162) to sub-lease 5, 2 bedroom apartment units to upperclassman students as overflow housing. Prairie Springs has battery operated, smoke detectors located in each individual living unit. Smoke detectors are tested and batteries replaced (as needed) at the beginning of each academic term.

Garey Hall was closed and demolished at the beginning of the 2009-2010 academic year.

Fire extinguishers are located in prominent and public locations in each of the four University residence halls and in Imel townhouses. Fire extinguishers are present in the kitchens of all Asbury apartment units.

Building evacuation routes and resident assembly points are posted in the common spaces and on each floor of a residence halls and in Imel townhouses.

All Campus Security and Residence Life staff members receive comprehensive fire safety training at the beginning of each academic year. As well, Residence Life staff receives fire extinguisher training on an active fire at the beginning of each academic year. In addition, emergency and evacuation procedures are reviewed regularly with occupants and staff of each

residence hall. Emergency Evacuation maps are posted on each dorm floor to direct residents to exits. Mandatory fire drills are conducted once each semester for every living area in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association's Life Safety Code.

## II. Fire Statistics

### Log

- 1) 10/9/2008 10:16 pm Snowbarger 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Fire system activated for unknown reasons Bethany Fire and Campus Security tested and cleared system. System service was completed. No injuries, no damages.
  
- 2) 11/6/2008 10:26 pm Hatley 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Burnt microwave popcorn ignited inside microwave. Microwave melted and deemed irreplaceable. Incident caused \$150 worth of damages to replace the microwave. No injuries.
  
- 3) 1/28/2009 8:48 pm Imel building #2 Common Space  
Fire system activated for unknown reasons Bethany Fire and Campus Security tested and cleared system. System service was completed. No injuries, no damages.
  
- 4) 2/2/2009 7:45 am Garey Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Fire system activated by excessive steam from bathroom. Bethany Fire and Campus Security tested and cleared system. System service was completed. No injuries, no damages.
  
- 5) 6/29/2009 8:18 pm Snowbarger 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Fire system activated for unknown reasons Bethany Fire and Campus Security tested and cleared system. System service was completed and a dirty fire sensor was detected and replaced. No injuries, no damages.

### Statistical Summary

	2009 Total
Injuries	0
Fire-related Death	0
Incidents Causing Damage	1
Residence Hall Fire Drills Conducted	6
Value of Property Damage	\$150.00

### Definitions

The following definitions are applicable:

- **Cause of fire:** The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The causal factor may be, but is not limited to, the result of an intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure, or act of nature.

- **Fire:** Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.
- **Fire drill:** A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.
- **Injury:** Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause, while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire. The term “person” may include students, faculty, staff, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.
- **Fire-related death:** Any instance in which a person (1) is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire; or (2) dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of a fire.
- **Fire-safety system:** Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire, or the control of a fire. This may include sprinkler systems or other fire extinguishing systems; fire detection devices; stand-alone smoke alarms; devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells, or strobe lights; smoke-control and reduction mechanisms; and fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire.
- **Value of property damage:** The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity. This estimate should include contents damaged by fire, and related damages caused by smoke, water, and overhaul; however, it does not include indirect loss, such as business interruption.

### III. Specific Fire Prevention Policies

It is the policy of Southern Nazarene University to provide faculty, staff, students and visitors with the safest possible environment, free from potential fire hazards. The primary goal is to recognize hazardous conditions and take appropriate action before such conditions result in a fire. The goal is accomplished by conducting periodic safety inspections of all residence facilities and increasing the fire safety awareness of residents by conducting fire drills.

To minimize the potential for fires in residential facilities, the following policies are in effect:

#### *Entry, Search and Inspection of Rooms*

The Offices of Residence Life and Housing and the Department of Campus Safety, reserve the right to enter students’ rooms to ensure community health and safety, and assess violations of the University Policies and Standards of Conduct.

In order to maintain physical facilities and cleanliness of living conditions, it is imperative that appropriate administrative officials inspect residence hall rooms and apartments at regularly

stated intervals. Students whose rooms are found lacking will be expected to promptly make any needed corrections as determined by SNU officials. Failure to comply with these directions will result in the student being fined or other corrective intervention.

To ensure the safety, security or well-being of members of the SNU residential community or the community at-large, and to enforce the University guidelines or policies, University officials, with probable cause or reasonable suspicion, may enter individual rooms, make a search, and confiscate illegal or otherwise forbidden items which may be used as evidence in subsequent disciplinary proceedings, provided authorization for such entry and search is obtained from the Vice President for Student Development and/or the Associate Dean of Students or designate.

The University recognizes that students' rooms and apartments are their homes while enrolled at Southern Nazarene University and acknowledges each student's right of privacy. It should be noted that all residential units are the property of Southern Nazarene University. Responsibility for immediate supervision lies with the university administration. The University may make random, unannounced checks of any resident spaces to ensure the safe and secure operations of University residence facilities.

#### *Fire Safety*

Fire hazards, including but not limited to, incense, burning candles, halogen lamps, exposed heating elements, or personal BBQ grills are prohibited in or around any residential living area. Cooking of food in residence hall rooms is not permitted.

Light fixtures in the residential community should never be obstructed or covered by any material. Students may not cover their walls in any material that will create a fire hazard.

Flammable materials (e.g., gasoline, kerosene, fireworks, etc.) may not be kept in the campus residence.

Fire extinguishers must not be used or removed from their storage rack except in case of fire. The safety of community members requires that fire extinguishing equipment, fire alarm systems, (including smoke detectors, emergency evacuation lights), and fire doors are kept for authorized use only, other use is prohibited by law. Violators are subject to a minimum fine of \$250 and/or additional legal/disciplinary action.

#### *Flammable Materials*

Local laws prohibit the use of fireworks and the use of or possession on campus and will result in a minimal fine of \$100 and/or additional legal/disciplinary action. Other flammable materials (e.g. gasoline, candles, incense, etc.) may not be kept in the residence halls or apartments. (See Residential Living Policies for more information).

#### *Personal Property Insurance*

The University suggests to residential students that they enroll in a renter's insurance policy. The University does not assume responsibility or liability for any theft, loss, damage, or destruction to student's personal property that is brought to campus, including in university residence halls. Students assume full responsibility and liability for all personal property.

### *Smoke detectors*

Each student's room in the residence halls and campus apartments is equipped with a smoke detector. Tampering with these devices is strictly prohibited. Students should contact a Residence Life or Housing official immediately to report a broken or non-working smoke detector.

### *Tobacco*

The possession and/or use of tobacco in any form is not permitted on or off campus. Also, the displaying of tobacco paraphernalia is prohibited. Individuals who are found in violation of the University Lifestyle Policy and Standards of Conduct face disciplinary action including fines, community service, or suspension from the University.

### *Weapons*

The presence of weapons on campus poses an unacceptable risk to the health and safety of all members and guests of the Southern Nazarene University community. Therefore, the possession of weapons is prohibited on the University campus, and on University controlled property. For the purpose of this policy a weapon is defined as any instrument, article, or substance which is specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death, incapacitation, or serious physical injury. Weapons may include, but are not limited to: firearms, ammunition, explosive devices, pellet/BB guns, paintball guns, bows and knives, sling shots and water balloon launchers, martial arts equipment, swords, switchblades, knives with blades longer than three and one half inches. University personnel have the right to secure weapons on the private or controlled property of Southern Nazarene University.

## **IV. Plans for Improving Fire Safety**

- 1) Installing Fire extinguishers in each apartment unit in Chapman and Prairie Springs apartments (if utilized) before 2010-2011.
- 2) Install Additional signage communicating building evacuation and assembly points in all university residential facilities, in particular focusing on additional signage per apartment unit in those facilities.