



## **OFF-CAMPUS**

By Tim Knisely

August 2017

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### **Move-in - Fall 2017:**

So, how did your move-in weekend go? If you're an AHJ, you've likely talked to parents by now that didn't have such a pleasant experience. Some parents expected more than what was delivered. Or, more than what was promised in the literature or website. Others have a valid complaint based on the amount of prep-work the landlord did prior to move-in, or didn't do.

For the parents, thankfully there is still time to salvage the semester and make things right. If you have items to get fixed, make sure you complete the move-in checklist. Just understand that the repairs may not occur overnight. If you think it is critical, or if it will provide peace of mind, call or email the management company to get a faster response. If you don't hear back, or still have problems you might need to call the local authority.

Then before you know it, it will be time to start looking for housing for the Fall of 2018. You'll receive renewal notices by October. If the landlord did a good job and maintains their property well, your decision on where to live next year may be easy. If they didn't meet your expectations, your decision will also be easy - Don't renew! Beyond move-in, the AHJ also has to be prepared for the activities that will be in full swing before the parents have returned home. These include parties - off-campus as well as at the fraternity houses; unwanted fire alarms or malicious activations; football tailgates; and, many other functions that raise the risks in the event of a fire. Most involve the use of alcohol. This is no surprise since alcohol was a factor in 76% of fire fatalities that occur in the campus community.  
(USFA: Campus Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings: 2000-2015)

### **Campus Fire Safety Month 2017:**

Don't forget - September is Campus Fire Safety Month. CCFS is keeping busy with a series of events again this year. If your campus or university has events planned, be sure to share these with the members. You'll find information on the webpage on



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how to showcase what you are doing. There will also be contents and other activities throughout the month. If you need ideas or resources, be sure to check the webpage and the CCFS Library.

### Campus Fire Forum:

If you haven't already made plans to attend, consider registering for this year's Campus Fire Forum in Chapel Hill, NC. There is a great lineup of events being planned as usual, including a feature session for Greek Fire Safety issues and new fire protection technologies. More details will be released on this special event soon.

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Tim Knisely is on the Board of Directors for The Center and the Senior Fire Inspector for the Centre Region Code Administration in State College, PA. In this position he manages the Existing Structures Division that administers the fire and property maintenance code in all existing commercial and residential rental properties, and coordinates the life safety education for the community including off-campus and Greek housing.

Tim has been active with The Center for Campus Fire Safety since its inception and served as treasurer from 2007 to 2010.

He is a frequent presenter at Campus Fire Forum, an instructor for the Fire-Wise Campus program and served as project manager for Campus Fire Data.



Published by: The Center for Campus Fire Safety.

[www.campusfiresafety.org](http://www.campusfiresafety.org)

978.961.0410 | [email](#)