2015 ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT

The University of Texas at Austin
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PROLOGUE

On Aug. 14, 2008, the Higher Education Opportunity Act or HEOA (Public Law 110-315) reauthorized and expanded the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. HEOA amended the Clery Act and created additional safety- and security-related requirements for institutions. Specifically, it added:

- Fire safety reporting requirements for institutions with on-campus student housing facilities.

In compliance with appropriate provisions of federal law, The University of Texas at Austin is required to make reports available to the campus community and to prospective students and their parents pertaining to fire safety. Institutions maintaining on-campus student housing facilities must collect fire statistics, publish an Annual Fire Safety Report and keep a Fire Log.

ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT-HEOA DIRECTIVE

The Annual Fire Reports contains per the Directive:

- Fire statistics listed for each on-campus student housing facility separately.
- Description of the fire safety system for each on-campus student housing facility.
- The number of fire drills held the previous calendar year.
- Institutional policies or rules on portable electrical appliances, smoking and open flames in student housing facilities.
- Procedures for student housing evacuation.
- Policies for fire safety education and training programs for students, staff, faculty.
- A list of the titles of each person or organization to which individuals should report that a fire has occurred.
- Plans for future improvements in fire safety, if determined necessary by the institution.

DEFINITIONS

a) **Definition of a Fire**

For fire safety reporting, a fire is, “Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.”

b) **Definition of On-Campus Student Housing Facility**

For purposes of the Clery Act regulations, "any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution, or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered an on-campus student housing facility". 
c) Definition of a Fire Safety System

The Higher Education Opportunity Act defines a fire safety system as “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”.

4. FIRE LOG-HEOA DIRECTIVE

A Fire Log will be maintained by the institution. This Fire Log should be easily understood and fires should be recorded on the date reported. For each report of a fire the following information should be included in the Fire Log:

- The nature of the fire
- The date the fire occurred
- The time of day the fire occurred
- The general location of the fire

The Fire Log may be in hard copy or in an electronic format. The Fire Log must be accessible on site. The Fire Log reports for the most recent sixty (60) day period must be open to public inspection upon request during normal business hours. Any portion of the log that is older than 60 days must be made available within two (2) business days of a request for public inspection. The Fire Log must be kept for three (3) years following the publication of the last annual report to which it applies (in effect: seven years).

Fire log requirement citation 34 CFR 668.49(d)


5. FIRE STATISTICS-HEOA DIRECTIVE

Fire statistics must be collected and reported in both the annual fire safety report and the U.S. Department of Education’s web-based data collection system. Fire statistics for each on-campus student housing facility must be reported.

a) The number of fires and cause of each fire.

Categories to be used are:

i. Unintentional Fire
   A. Cooking
   B. Smoking materials
   C. Open flames
   D. Electrical
   E. Heating Equipment
   F. Hazardous products
G. Machinery/Industrial
H. Natural
I. Other
   ii. Intentional Fire
   iii. Undetermined Fire

b) Number of deaths related to the fire.
c) Number of inquiries related to the fire resulting in treatment at a medical facility.
d) The value of property damage related to the fire.

*Fire statistics disclosure requirement citation 34 CFR 668.49(c)*

6. FIRE STATISTICS

| 2014 STATISTICS & RELATED INFORMATION REGARDING FIRES IN ON-CAMPUS RESIDENCE HALLS |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| FACILITY NAME                                   | ADDRESS         | TOTAL FIRES PER FACILITY | FIRE NUMBER | CAUSE | INJURY NUMBER REQUIRING TREATMENT | NUMBER OF FIRE RELATED DEATHS | VALUE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE |
| Andrews Hall                                   | 2401 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Blanton Hall                                   | 2500 University Ave | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Brackenridge Hall                              | 303 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Carothers Hall                                 | 2501 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Creekside Hall                                 | 2500 San Jacinto Blvd. | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Almetrius Duren Hall                           | 2624 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Moore-Hill Hall                                | 204 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Jester Hall-East                               | 201 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Jester Hall-West                               | 201 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Kinsolving Hall                                | 2605 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Littlefield Hall                               | 2503 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Living Learning Hall A                         | 2610 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Living Learning Hall B                         | 2610 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Living Learning Hall C                         | 2610 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Living Learning Hall D                         | 2610 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Living Learning Hall E                         | 2610 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Living Learning Hall F                         | 2610 Whitis Avenue | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Prather Hall                                   | 305 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| Roberts Hall                                   | 303 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |
| San Jacinto Hall                               | 309 East 21st Street | 0                         | 0          | NA   | 0                             | 0                             | 0                       |

* Value in U.S. dollars

7. STUDENT HOUSING DRILL RECORD

Each semester, including both summer sessions, every open and occupied residence hall conducts planned, unannounced fire drills in compliance with the HEA requirement regarding emergency response and evacuation procedure testing requirements.
8. STUDENT HOUSING FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS DESCRIPTION

a) **Almetrius Duren Hall (ADH)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   v. Elevator recall as per NFPA 101, Life Safety code
      
      *Occupant number 572*

b) **Andrews Hall (AND)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
      
      *Occupant number 132*
c) **Blanton Hall (BHD)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   Occupant number 274

d) **Brackenridge Hall (BHD)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   Occupant number 128

e) **Carothers Hall (CRD)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   Occupant number 131

f) **Creekside Hall (CRH)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   Occupant number 190

g) **Jester Hall (JES)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   v. Elevator recall as per NFPA 101, Life Safety code
   Occupant number 2,963

h) **Kinsolving Hall (KIN)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   v. Elevator recall as per NFPA 101, Life Safety code
   Occupant number 735

i) **Littlefield Hall (LFH)**
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   Occupant number 152

j) Living Learning Halls A through F – (LLA) (LLB) (LLC) (LLD) (LLE) (LLF)
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
      Occupant number 197

k) Moore Hill Dormitory (MHD)
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
      Occupant number 386

l) Prather Hall Dormitory (PHD)
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
      Occupant number 158

m) Roberts Hall (RHD)
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
      Occupant number 127

n) San Jacinto Hall (SJH)
   i. Fire Sprinklers 100%
   ii. Fire alarm coverage 100% as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   iii. Proprietary fire alarm monitoring as per NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code
   v. Pressurized stairwells & floor pressurization as per NFPA 101 – mandatory references pertaining to pressurization for dormitories/hotel occupancies
      Occupant number 811
9. STUDENT HOUSING POLICIES

a) **Smoking**

On April 9, 2012, The University of Texas at Austin became a tobacco-free campus. The use of any tobacco products is prohibited in university buildings and on university grounds within the state of Texas, including parking areas and structures, sidewalks, walkways, and university owned buildings.

Smoking is not permitted in any area of the residence halls including individual student rooms and stairwells. For more information, see the “Tobacco Free Campus” information [http://sites.utexas.edu/compliance/files/2015/09/Residence-Hall-Manual.pdf](http://sites.utexas.edu/compliance/files/2015/09/Residence-Hall-Manual.pdf) page 34.

b) **Banned Objects and Appliances**

In accordance with university residence hall policy, as reviewed and approved by The University of Texas at Austin Fire Marshal, the following objects, appliances and electrical devices cannot be used in a university residence hall room:

- Ammunition
- Any appliance with open heating coils
- Black light bulbs
- Bread maker
- Broilers
- Camp stoves
- Candle with a burned or unburned wick
- Coffee/Drink warmer
- Convection ovens
- Crock Pot
- Decorative lighting
- Deep fryer
- Electric sandwich maker/press
- Electric skillet, griddle, or waffle maker
- Electric wok
- Electrical appliances, equipment, or other devices that are not UL approved and/or labeled
- Explosives
- Facsimile of a weapon
- Fireworks
- Flammable liquids, solids, or gases
- George Foreman Grill
- Grills; propane, charcoal, or wood-fired
- Halogen lamps
- Hamburger cooker
- Hazardous materials
- Homemade furniture
- Hot cutter
- Hot oil popcorn popper
- Hot plate
• Incandescent bulbs
• Induction cooking appliances
• Lofted furniture not supplied by DHFS
• Microwave (other than the one provided by DHFS)
• Neon lights
• Open flame
• Open heating element
• Paper lamp shades or lanterns with bulbs
• Paper on your door (larger than two 8x11)
• Plug-in air fresheners
• Refrigerator (other than the one provided by DHFS)
• Rice cooker
• Soldering iron
• Space heater
• Toaster
• Toaster oven
• Torchiere floor lamp
• Toxic chemicals
• University furniture not assigned to you
• Wax warmers/potpourri warmers
• Weapons or facsimiles of weapons

The use of unauthorized electrical devices can present a fire hazard. Residents found in possession of unauthorized electrical devices will be directed to remove the item and will be subject to disciplinary action. See http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing/pdfs/ResidenceHallManual2014.pdf page 46.

c) Open Flames

In accordance with university residence hall policy the use of open flame devices is not allowed within the residence halls. See http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing/pdfs/ResidenceHallManual2014.pdf page 47. The following open flame devices are prohibited:

i. Candles (with or without burned wicks)
ii. Incense
iii. Other open flame devices

10. FIRE & LIFE SAFETY VIOLATIONS

To ensure that fire and life safety guidelines are followed within the residence halls, various types of appliances and items are prohibited. If have questions regarding whether a particular item is permitted, residents should direct such inquiries to Resident Hall Assistants and to send questions pertaining to prohibited items to: DHFS (housing@austin.utexas.edu). Inquiries are presented to the university Fire Marshal for an official response – with a decision as it whether the item is permissible or not.
Student residents receiving notice of a first time monetary fine for a fire safety violation may have the fine waived if they review and successfully complete a Fire Safety Test as found on the Division of Housing/Food Services (DHFS) web site. This waiver does not extend to individuals involved with:

- Tapering or vandalism of building fire safety equipment.
- Activation of a fire alarm system falsely.
- Discharging of fireworks or explosives.
- Arson.

Subsequent violations of fire and life safety policies will result in disciplinary action and possible removal of an individual from the residence hall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESIDENCE HALL MONETARY FINES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VIOLATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activation of a fire alarm system – falsely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discharging fireworks, explosives, weapons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obstruction of fire sprinkler system</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire sprinkler soffit – placement of items on soffit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tampering of fire safety and/or sprinkler equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open flame or open flame devices within a residence</td>
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<td>Failure to evacuate upon activation of a fire alarm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Possession of banned or prohibited objects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smoking indoors or in designated no smoking areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obstructing a route of fire exit egress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obstructing an evacuation diagram or excessive wall coverings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subsequent Offense(s)</td>
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11. STUDENT HOUSING EVACUATION PROCEDURES

a) Emergency Evacuation


Student residents are required to evacuate residence halls upon activation of the building fire alarm system and/or public address system. Other types of emergencies requiring the evacuation
of a facility can be performed via the building public address system. Any announcement of an emergency nature is performed by a trained Resident Assistant or staff member. The university Fire Prevention Services group conducts emergency evacuation drills: www.utexas.edu/safety/fire/safety/residence_halls.html.

b) **Evacuation Route**

Emergency evacuation routes within each facility are posted on the interior door of each residence room. Additionally, staging or gathering areas for residents are noted for each residence hall in the residence hall manual, http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing/pdfs/ResidenceHallManual2014.pdf pages 55-57. Residents are required to gather on sidewalks or other appropriate areas out of the traffic areas used by emergency responders. After being evacuated, residents should only return to the residence halls after an announcement by the municipal fire department, university police, or university fire prevention personnel that it is permissible to do so. Evacuation drills are performed for each occupied residence hall four (4) times per year. Drills are performed each fall, spring and twice during the summer sessions.

c) **Evacuation Assistance**

Residence hall staff provides a confidential list of students that may require assistance during evacuations to fire safety and police personnel. Students may request in writing to the residence hall area desk to be added or removed from this list at any time during the year. Resident Assistants provide assistance or assign personnel to assist any student that may be mobility impaired or that may require assistance in the event of an evacuation.

d) **Emergency Communication Tools**

Emergencies may range from inclement weather, to building evacuations, to campus closures. The university has a variety of tools to communicate with the public in the event of these and other possible emergencies. Depending on the type of emergency, the university may use some or all of the communications tools to inform the faculty, staff, and students. See www.utexas.edu/safety/communication.

12. **FIRE SAFETY**

a) **Fire Safety Training**

Fire safety training is required for all Resident Hall Assistants. Training is provided by the university Fire Prevention Services Inspection staff prior to the fall semester. The training involves:

i. Live Fire Demonstration (facsimile of a dormitory room burning)
ii. Orientation of a smoke filled dormitory room (use of theatrical smoke)
iii. Practical (hands on) training of portable fire extinguishers
iv. Presentation (1 hour) in dormitory room/corridors/stairs/common area inspection procedures:
   A. Overview of prohibited electrical appliances
   B. Fire – life safety violations and monetary fine system
C. Overview of prohibited decorations
D. Overview of building fire safety systems (sprinklers/fire alarm)
E. Practical fire safety inspection procedures and the reporting process
F. Evacuation procedures (interaction with university Fire Marshal)
G. Nightly building inspection procedures and reporting process

See www.utexas.edu/safety/fire

13. FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Fire safety inspections of all residence halls and individual rooms are performed by the university fire inspectors and resident assistants assigned to each facility.

Training for inspections is provided by the university fire inspection staff. Instructional inspectors are certified by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).
http://www.nfpa.org/index.asp?cookie_test=1

Inspections of residence halls are performed nightly by the resident assistants. Specific areas to be inspected are as follows:

- Exit stairwells (check for obstructions)
- Exit corridors (check for obstructions)
- Exit signs (check for function and visibility)
- Building exit doors (check for function and security)
- Common areas (lounges - study rooms – entertainment areas)

Reports regarding building safety equipment requiring repair or replacement must be submitted to maintenance personnel in a timely manner.

14. FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin Fire Marshal’s Office was selected as the pilot program recipient for the “Have an Exit Strategy” fire safety education program adopted by the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office. See www.haveanexitstrategy.com

The university has been involved in this educational fire prevention program for since 2007. This program was formally adopted by the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office in 2010 and is offered to all public colleges and universities within the state of Texas.

This program emphasizes fire safety education venues that students, staff, and faculty may occupy while on campus. For example:

- Resident Assistants and all first year dormitory residents receive informational brochures on the “Have an Exit Strategy” program
- Bus service to the campus has placards advertising the fire safety program
Electronic athletic scoreboards in large assembly areas advertise the program
Campus building exit diagrams have “Exit Strategy” logos depicting the program
Municipal fire department places “Exit Strategy” placards in popular student gathering areas off campus

15. FIRE REPORTING

Reports of any type of fire are investigated and documented by The University of Texas at Austin Police Department. Fires involving an injury, death, significant property damage or suspicious fire incidents must be reported to the University of Texas Fire Marshal and/or Assistant Fire Marshal, Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief on a 24/7 basis. Any fire on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin that causes injury, death, significant property damage or potentially suspicious fire incidents must be reported to the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office. The reporting of fires to the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office can be via a 24/7 telephone number: 512-305-7900. Reports of fire incidents in public colleges and universities in Texas can be found at: www.tdi.state.tx.us/fire/fmfsi.html

Reports of fires within the Residence Halls are posted on The University of Texas at Austin Fire Marshal’s website. Fire reports pertaining to residence halls are updated on a daily basis and posted the following day at this website: www.utexas.edu/safety/fire

a) Notification of Fire Incidents

The University of Texas at Austin reports fire incidents via a NFPA 72 Proprietary dispatch office to the following individuals:

i. University Fire Marshal - Fire Prevention Services
ii. University Assistant Fire Marshal - Fire Prevention Services
iii. University Police Chief - University Police Department

The Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office is notified by the University Fire Marshal’s Office. Additional technical personnel from the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office may be notified depending upon the nature of the fire incident. This could include:

i. Deputy State Fire Marshal Inspectors
ii. Deputy State Fire Marshal Arson Investigators
iii. Deputy State Fire Marshal Forensic/Lab Investigators

16. FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS ON CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY

The University of Texas at Austin continually evaluates the need for improvements in all aspects of the campus fire safety program. It is the intent of the university to provide an environment that addresses the issues of fire and life safety for students, faculty, and staff.

Changes in student or personnel numbers, occupancy changes of campus buildings, the design and use of new buildings, renovations of existing structures, and the need to retrofit existing buildings with new fire/life safety equipment is continually under review.
Improvements or potential changes in fire safety at the university are reviewed and any required changes are implemented on a timely basis.