General Fire Safety Policy and Emergency Action Plan

Police and Fire Emergency Numbers:

- **Police / Fire / Medical Emergencies : Extension 911**
- **Non-Emergencies : Extension 74800**
- **Fire Safety Director : Extension 75010**
- **If you dial 911 via your cell phone advise the dispatcher of your location (Union, NJ-Kean University) before stating your emergency. Your cell phone may connect to a regional 911 dispatcher. Remember to place the campus police phone number in your cell phone in advance of an emergency.**

General Responsibilities, Procedures and Instructions

It is essential that the campus community be prepared to respond appropriately in the face of emergencies such as fires, explosions, and chemical releases. The following instructions are to be used by employees and students to thoroughly understand the General Fire/Emergency Evacuation Procedures known as Kean's- Emergency Action Plan.

Planning: The key to a successful evacuation is planning. Potential emergencies within a building may require the occupants to evacuate the building. The following information and procedures have been designed to help ensure your personal safety, should an evacuation become necessary. Each member of the faculty and staff and all students should familiarize themselves with these emergency procedures, evacuation plans and instructions. They should also become familiar with the buildings which they occupy, including the location of the nearest available exits, fire alarm pull stations, and fire extinguishers. (See notes under fire extinguisher use)

Emergency egress and escape routes; *Each building has been provided with emergency evacuation floor plan diagrams showing the primary exit and secondary exit* as well as *the external emergency evacuation assembly areas.* To view see www.kean.edu/newimages/evacuation-map.jpg

Maintenance: these guidelines are updated annually or as necessitated by changes and established so that faculty, staff and students know their *responsibilities* during an emergency.

Availability: these general fire safety/emergency action and evacuation plans are provided to employees at the following times; to new employees and students, if employee's responsibilities under the plan change, if the plan is updated.

POLICY*: All faculty/students and staff shall immediately evacuate the building upon fire alarm activation to the designated area of assembly.*

No critical plant operations: are needed within any building prior to evacuation with the exception of the power house engineer located in the maintenance building. The power house engineer will secure fuel sources prior to evacuation should the need arise.
Assignment of personnel: Kean University police provide emergency medical aid in conjunction with the Union Township and Hillside Township Fire departments. Fire rescue and elevator rescue are performed by the local fire departments.
Procedure for identification of personnel: For additional assistance with an emergency contact Campus Police at 908-737-4800. The police department maintains an *active call list* of campus personnel and fire protection/maintenance contractors who may be needed to respond to assist with an emergency.

Emergency Responders: When the fire department responds to the university, the *Fire Department* is charged with the role of incident commander. As incident commander they may delegate functions or establish a unified command with other emergency agencies as needed. Kean University facilities/maintenance and police personnel under the direction of the fire department incident commander will assist the local fire department with building and room entry, locating alarm areas, as well as checking and operating fire alarm control panels.
Faculty, staff and students are expected and required to cooperate with and follow the directions of the *Fire Department Incident Commander* who may communicate his/her commands to the university police, university officials and other emergency personnel. Failure to cooperate may result in disciplinary action by the university. Failure to evacuate a building or location may result in criminal complaint or arrest.

Before a Fire Emergency-planning

- Keep your most important personal belongings readily accessible, especially keys to your home and vehicle, pocketbook, wallet, medications and appropriate clothing for outside assembly. *You may not be able to return to the building for an extended period!*
- Know the location of the nearest available fire alarm pull stations in the building where you are located and how to activate them. Fire alarm pull stations have self-inscribed instructions.
- Know the location of at least two of the nearest available exits from your area. *Do not include elevators!*
- Do not use elevators in case of emergency *they may not work!*
- Know the locations of the nearest available fire extinguishers in your area.(Note: building occupants are not required to fight fires)
- Participate in fire drills and take them seriously.
- Fire Extinguishers; based on this emergency action plan; *only* certain designated Kean employees are certified/trained to use a fire extinguisher. All other occupants of the building must evacuate!
- Be aware of persons in your area who would have difficulty evacuating due to physical limitations during an evacuation.

- Be aware of any rooms or offices where an alarm may not be heard, including, but not limited to some bathrooms and photographic darkrooms.
- *Accountability; All classroom professors/instructors as well as administrative assistants* for *each and every department on campus* shall be responsible for and utilize a university provided (copies available for download and printing at www.kean.edu/fehs -fire safety tab) emergency evacuation attendance roster listing all employees and classroom occupants for each day. The emergency evacuation attendance roster shall *only be collected* during an actual emergency.

On Discovering-reporting a Fire

- ***Preferred method of notifying occupants of a fire***: If you observe fire or smoke activate the building's fire alarm pull station. Fire alarm pull stations have self-inscribed instructions.
- *Time permitting*; recover your most important personal belongings that are readily accessible, especially keys to your home and vehicle, pocketbook, wallet, medications and appropriate clothing for outside assembly. *You may not be able to return to the building*!
- If smoke is present, crawl low to the floor.
- Go to the nearest available exit and leave the building. Use the nearest available stairways; *never use elevators*!
- ***Preferred method of reporting fire to emergency response personnel****:* Call University police (ext 911 or 908-737-4800) and provide your location and a description of the fire *after you have left the building*.
- Extinguisher Use-If the fire is incipient-(size of a wastebasket) *and* you have taken the *university provided annual fire extinguisher training*, *use--your safety first--discretion to* select the proper type of fire extinguisher. Always keep an exit at your back. Attempt to extinguish the fire only after evacuation has started and the University Police have been called. *Building occupants are not required to fight fires*. Your safe evacuation should come first and foremost. As such all occupants are required to evacuate!

- ***On Hearing the Fire Alarm-evacuating the building***

  All occupants of the building must immediately evacuate the building by proceeding to the nearest available exit and assembly area.
- Time permitting; recover your most important personal belongings that are readily accessible, especially keys to your home and vehicle, pocketbook, wallet, medications and appropriate clothing for outside assembly. You may not be able to return to the building!
- When you leave your room, close the door.
- If smoke is present, crawl low to the floor. (Continued)

- Alert all persons in your area as you are exiting the building.
- ***Description of Audible Alarm***: The alert tone throughout campus at this time is one of three types of alarms. The newest is a voice/alarm, the second and most common is a horn/strobe alarm and a few buildings still maintain a bell alarm.

If You Are Not Able to Leave-shelter in place

- Feel the doorknob, with the back of your hand, before opening any door. IF IT IS HOT, DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR. If it is not hot, brace yourself behind the door and open it slightly. If heat or heavy smoke is present, close the door and stay in your room. KEEP LOW TO THE FLOOR.
- If you cannot leave the room, seal the cracks around the door with wet towels or other materials. Call University police (extension 911) and let them know your location and that you are unable to exit.
- Open a window a few inches for fresh air and hang a white sheet or cloth out the window to alert the fire department of your location.
- Close all other doors and windows in the vicinity of the fire.
- Stay close to the window, holding a wet towel to your face; and do not open the windows except to alert rescue personnel by hanging a white sheet or cloth out the window.

Exiting-evacuating the building

- Leave the building using the nearest available exit.
- *Do not use the elevator*! It may not work in a fire emergency!
- When using the stairwell to evacuate, stay to the right, remaining close to the wall to allow the Fire Department personnel sufficient access to get to the fire floor or location of the emergency. If an exit is blocked by fire or smoke, go to another available exit.
- If all exits are blocked, return to a safe location, close the door and call University police (extension 911) to report your location.
- *After leaving*, move away from the building. *Do not stand in the roadway!* Stay a minimum of 150 feet from the building and *meet at the designated assembly area for your location.* See the attached Evacuation Assembly Area Map for the designated assembly area for your location. Campus police will advise if *relocation* is needed.
- *Re-entry; Do not re-enter the building until instructed* by either the University Police or fire department officials with authority from the Incident Commander. Often the emergency response personnel silence the alarm prior to completion. *A silenced alarm does not mean re-enter*. Occupants will be notified to re-enter upon the fire and or police department mobile public address system.

Fire Evacuations: Occupants with Disabilities

It is required that University Police know of Faculty, Staff and student's immobility, whether temporary or permanent. The Fire Safety Director maintains a list of immobile faculty, staff and students. The Human Resources Office and The Office of Counseling/Disabilities notify individuals of the *option* of being placed on the list. Self identification is voluntary and confidential. The campus police dispatcher receives an updated list each semester of all the occupants with disabilities and the designated areas of refuge. Personnel included on the list are met in person by the Fire Safety Director and given individual guidelines to follow along with a list of all buildings and areas of refuge within each building. *Prior to* an emergency evacuation of any kind, a partner should be assigned or chosen to accompany and remain with the disabled occupant. Attempting to carry an immobilized person is discouraged. If a fire alarm is activated, the following procedures should be followed at all times:

- The disabled occupant or guardian assigned to the disabled occupant should call extension 911 to notify University Police of their location. If a phone is not readily available, the disabled occupant or guardian assigned to the disabled occupant should ask a messenger to communicate their location to the University Police or The Township of Union/Hillside Fire Department.
- Visually impaired but mobile persons should first be moved out of the rush of traffic and then promptly assisted to the nearest exit.
- Hearing impaired but mobile persons, who may be unaware of the need to evacuate, should be calmly advised and guided to the nearest available exit.
- Temporarily immobilized persons, including people wearing casts and/or using canes or crutches, should be assisted, depending on their ability to go up and down stairs and maneuver through doorways. Proceed into the stairwell and wait on the landing until additional help can be summoned.
- Permanently immobilized persons who have either limited or no use of their legs and must rely on crutches, wheelchairs or walkers for transport should proceed into the nearest available safe stairwell and wait on the landing until additional help can be summoned.
- The University Police and/or the local fire department will arrive to help complete the evacuation. (End of emergency action plan) continuation of general fire safety policy

Fire Safety Equipment

The safety of the Kean University community is everyone's responsibility, and equipment and facilities are maintained to enhance safety. Accordingly, Kean University has a *"Zero Tolerance"* policy regarding tampering with fire safety equipment. Deliberately causing a fire alarm, falsely reporting a fire or a bomb threat, setting a fire, possessing highly combustible materials, vandalizing any fire system or misusing/blocking any piece of fire equipment (fire extinguisher, pull stations, pull station cover boxes, bells, smoke detectors and sprinklers) are all acts that will be referred to a University hearing officer for adjudication. Violations of this nature may result in severe disciplinary action. Faculty, staff or students having any information regarding a false alarm or fire should report the facts to University Police immediately. Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Fire Drills-Residence halls

To further insure the safety of students who live in University housing; fire drills are conducted two times each semester. The first drill is scheduled within the first ten days of the semester and all residents are told in advance. The second drill is conducted before dawn or after dusk with no advanced warning. Resident hall students are reminded to read their *Residence Life Student Handbook* that explains additional policies and procedures.

Floor Resident Assistants (RA) act as fire marshals during fire drills. Enclosed stairways are located at the end of each residence hall building. Under no circumstances are the elevators to be used. When the fire alarm sounds, close and lock doors as you leave and proceed out of the building to your designated assembly area. Everyone must evacuate the building immediately upon activation of the fire alarm. Once outside, shelter may be taken in a designated alternative location. Anyone found in the building during a fire alarm evacuation (whether or not the alarm is still sounding) will be sanctioned by Residence Life and Housing staff and possibly the University Police. Failure to respond to fire alarms or emergencies, or failure to respond to directions of staff, police or fire officials will be considered a serious violation of the Housing Contract and may result in fines and disciplinary action. After being cleared by the Fire Safety Director or his designate to re-enter the building, residents and guests must use the main building entrance only. If residents do not evacuate a building in a reasonable amount of time, the drill may be repeated until the Fire Safety Director is satisfied with the evacuation time. All repeat drills may be unannounced at the discretion of the Fire Safety Director.

Fire Drills-Non Residence-w/ *Campus Police evacuation training*

Fire drills are also conducted twice a month for the University Child Care Center. Fire drills for all other campus buildings are scheduled on an annual basis with the start of the fall semester each year. All occupants must evacuate the building immediately-even if someone claims that it is a false alarm/fire drill. Occupants shall not use the elevator. *Campus Police receive annual training* at this time in the safe and orderly emergency evacuation of all employees. Campus police participate and assist all occupants during the fire drills.

Fire Alarm Testing

Testing of all fire detection and suppression systems is performed by independent companies to ensure compliance with all applicable codes and standards.

Fire alarm tests are scheduled during the summer months, with notices sent to key building occupants. The key building personnel are responsible for informing the building occupants of the date and time of the test.

On a regularly scheduled basis, the Fire Safety Director schedules inspection and tests of all fire alarm systems, smoke detectors, sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers. In accordance with State Law, fire alarms are tested at least once a year by our authorized fire system maintenance contractor to make sure the systems are working properly in case of an actual fire.

During a fire alarm test, all bells and/or horns are sounded first to make sure they are operating properly. This takes approximately three to five minutes. Then the bells are silenced and the rest of the system is tested. If a bell or horn does not work, it must be repaired. If building occupants notice that nearby bells or horns do not sound, they should bring it to the attention of the Fire Safety Director at extension 75010, Facilities & Campus Planning Ext. 75000 or University Police Ext. 74800.

Inspections

Inspections of all life safety devices are continuously performed throughout the University. All fire alarm systems are tested annually before the start of the fall semester. The fire alarms are monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year at the University Police Headquarters.

Sprinkler systems are tested annually and inspected quarterly. All of the Residence Halls are fully sprinkled. Some of the academic buildings have sprinkler systems as well.

Cooking equipment in food service facilities are protected by hood suppression systems. This is like a fire extinguisher that is hooked up to the hood above the stove. These systems are tested every 6 months.

Kean University's fire safety program is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety. Under the authority invested in the Division of Fire Safety by the Uniform Fire Code, this state agency inspects all campus facilities. Some buildings are inspected quarterly depending on their classification and use. Kean University's Fire Safety Director periodically inspects the buildings throughout the year to insure compliance with all State codes.

Fire extinguishers

A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out or containing small (incipient) fires until the fire department arrives; but portable extinguishers have limitations. Because a fire can grow and spread so rapidly, the number one priority for residents is to *get out* of the building safely.

Note: All employees are required to evacuate the building. The *only* employees authorized (at-their safety first-discretion) to attempt to extinguish an incipient fire (size of a wastebasket) are facilities employees and campus police/security personnel *who have received* annual fire extinguisher training.

There are approximately 800 fire extinguishers on campus. All fire extinguishers are inspected monthly, and hydrostatically tested in accordance with N.F.P.A.10. If anyone sees a fire extinguisher with an old inspection tag or an extinguisher that is damaged or missing, please report the location to the Fire Safety Director at extension 75010. Tampering with a fire extinguisher is a violation of the law and violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law!

Fire Extinguisher Safety Tips:

- Use a portable fire extinguisher, if the fire is incipient-(size of a wastebasket) and if you are authorized by having taken the university provided annual training- remember these useful tips;
- To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the word **PASS**:
  - **P**ull the pin. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you & release the locking pin.
  - **A**im low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
  - **S**queeze the lever slowly and evenly.
  - **S**weep the nozzle from side-to-side.

- Read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher and become familiar with its parts and operation before a fire breaks out. The Fire Safety Director provides fire extinguisher training to certain designated employees based on Kean's emergency action plan.
- Most fire extinguishers are installed close to an exit. Keep your back to a clear exit when you use the fire extinguisher, so you can make an easy escape if the fire cannot be controlled. If the room begins to fill with smoke and fire, leave immediately.
- During the first floor meeting of the year, Resident Assistants introduce the residents to the fire safety equipment. The **PASS** method (**P**ull, **A**im, **S**queeze, **and S**weep) is used to explain proper use of a fire extinguisher, but evacuating the building is the focus!
- **Know when to go. Fire extinguishers are one element of a fire response plan, but the primary element is safe escape.**

SPRINKLERS

Sprinklers are an important part of the fire protection system in all Kean University residence halls and several other campus buildings. All residence halls have now been retrofitted with sprinkler systems. Like fire alarms, these systems are checked on a regular basis. Their purpose is to suppress a fire and keep it from spreading. Water flowing in the system triggers the fire alarm. Please report any leaking sprinkler equipment to the Fire Safety Director at extension 75010, Resident Life & Housing Office at extension 76800 or University Police at extension 74800.Do not hang any objects or decorations from sprinkler heads and pipes. This action can not only cause damage, but it is illegal if done intentionally. Residential Life & Housing is charged with reporting any damage in residence halls--and will charge/bill the person responsible for damages.

Fire Prevention

Throughout the University, including Residence Halls

The following items are *prohibited* in order to help prevent fires at the university. Please be advised that while this list is extensive, it is in no way all inclusive. The list is intended to be used as a guideline.

- The possession of candles, incense and open flame devices are not permitted in any building, unless properly authorized by the Fire Safety Director
- Live Christmas trees and wreaths, unless properly authorized by the Fire Safety Director.
- Neon signs and string lights (e.g. holiday lights)
- Firearms, weapons, paintball guns, fireworks, explosives, chemicals (except in authorized labs), firecrackers and like items.

- University authorized and sponsored Fireworks presentations must have the properly authorized permits-insurance from local and state authorities, including written notification to and approval from the Local Township municipal and fire department authorities. It is also required that the neighboring community surrounding the campus be notified at least 48 hours in advance of any authorized and properly licensed fireworks displays. The permit procedures should include arrangements for the proper fire department apparatus and personnel to provide the appropriate fire protection and safety at the fireworks presentation. See the Fire Safety Director for details.
- **Unauthorized modification of space and the furnishings contained within, including the installation of any air conditioners, paintings, and any personal furnishings is prohibited.**
- Do not decorate common areas with hanging or other items
- Nothing may be attached to any egress window or egress door (room entry door, bedroom door, hallway door etc.)
- **Furniture such as chairs, couches, mattresses, waterbeds etc., <u>other than those provided by the University</u>.**
- Do not move furnishings from their original locations or store items on top of them that are less than 18" from the ceiling or bottom of any sprinkler heads.
- Excessively disorderly conditions and the storage of excessive amounts of paper, trash or recyclables are prohibited.
- Trash and recycling containers must not be kept in hallways or stairwells.
- Personal lamps including halogen lamps are **not** allowed
- Motor vehicles of any kind, including but not limited to, mopeds, motorcycles, and motor bikes are prohibited in any of the University's buildings.
- Electrical heat producing appliances (stoves, George Foreman grills, toaster ovens, hot plates, and portable heating units) are prohibited, including all appliances that are not UL listed and appliances that are recalled by manufacturers or government agencies.
- Open coil appliances for heating water and beverages are prohibited
- Electric heaters are *only allowed if provided by the University*
- Blocking <u>*means of egress*</u> hallways/walkways and staircases in any building.
- Door stops, wedges and other unapproved hold-open devices on fire doors shall be prohibited. Self-closing and automatic-closing devices shall be approved. Where it is desired to keep doors open, an automatic-closing device actuated by the fire detection system shall be provided in accordance with the building code. All unauthorized devices used to prop open doors shall be removed immediately.
- Smoking is not permitted within any building on campus.

- Possession of highly flammable materials including gasoline, their containers (whether containing fuel or empty), Propane cylinders.
- Kerosene lamps, oil lamps ,alcohol lamps, lighter fluid and other highly flammable substances
- Setting or fueling a fire of any size.
- Use of fire-fueled or electric grills for any purpose is prohibited.
- Portable LP gas cooking equipment such a barbecue grill is restricted to our dining hall vendor via a permit process with the Division of Fire Safety. The cooking equipment must be commercial grade and is prohibited;
    a. On any portion of a building;
    b. Within any room or space of a building;
    c. Within five feet of any combustible exterior wall;
    d. Within five feet, vertically or horizontally, of any opening in any wall; or
    e. Under any building overhang.
- A person shall not cause or allow *open burning* unless approved in accordance with the Uniform Fire Code and the KEAN Fire Safety Office.
- A person shall not take or utilize an open flame or light in any structure or other place where highly flammable, combustible or explosive material is utilized or stored.
- The installation of personal locks or chains, splicing cable lines, use of materials that damage the surfaces of the building interiors or prevents authorized equipment from working properly is prohibited.
- In residence halls-do not use a steam iron in the bedrooms
- Do not spray aerosol cans near smoke detectors.
- Power strips *without* an internal circuit breaker and UL approval are prohibited.
- Electrical cords shall *not* be routed unsafely (under carpets, in pathways, through doorways, taped down etc.)
- Extension cords and non-breaker multi- Plugs adapters are prohibited.
- Plug in air fresheners are prohibited.
- Power strips may not be used in series to gain greater length.
- Spliced, taped or frayed cords must not be used
- Do not hang or attach anything to, or on, any lamp, light fixture, sprinkler head or any other fire detection and suppression devices.
- Anything that damages, misuses, or otherwise *interferes with* the ready and proper operation of any fire detection or fire suppression equipment and related signs is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to: sprinklers, heat and smoke detectors, extinguishers, fire alarm control panels, pull stations, annunciator, emergency lighting, exit signs, emergency floor plan evacuation signs.

- Intentional activation of a fire alarm when there is no fire emergency is prohibited
- In the residence halls-individual(s) responsible for causing false alarms will be fined $250.00 and will face both disciplinary and legal action.
- In residence halls do not move wardrobe furniture from their original locations or store items on top of them.
- In residence halls-items stored in the kitchen hallway closet must be at least 36 inches from the electrical circuit breaker boxes.

Records are kept on the number of times a smoke detector is set off in an apartment or residence hall room. When only one smoke detector goes off in an apartment or room it is called a local alarm. Residents will be fined and/or sanctioned for two or more local alarms and/or full building alarms during a particular semester, *if the cause* is related to not following the fire prevention guidelines listed within. In addition, students will be assessed a residence hall charge when the fire alarm for the entire building is activated due to tampering with a fire alarm device or otherwise creating a false fire alarm. For each false alarm, the floor on which the alarm was set will be charged $250. All residents of the hall will share this charge unless individuals responsible are identified. Damage to smoke detectors or fire safety equipment will be billed to individual residents in apartments/rooms or as common area damage.

Use of Places of Assembly

- Arrangement of "Set Ups" in all multi-purpose rooms and all assembly occupancies must be made through the Office of Facilities. The personnel responsible for "Set Ups" will review all "Set Up" plans with the Fire Safety Director to ensure compliance with the State of New Jersey, Uniform Fire Codes. To ensure continued compliance with fire codes, re-arrangement of previously approved "Set Ups" are prohibited without the proper authorization of the Fire Safety Director or designate.
  The individual requesting the "Set Up" is responsible for ensuring that the approved "Set Up" is not re-arranged. Re-arranging a "set-up" could in-advertently create a hazardous life safety situation.
- The Occupancy Load for all Places of Assembly must be followed WITHOUT EXCEPTION! Exceeding the occupancy load by one (1) person is cause for the function to be suspended until the legal occupancy load is achieved.
- Under no circumstances are tables and chairs, other furniture or like objects allowed to be "Set Up" in hallways that are avenues to **EXITS** or part of the ***means of egress.***

Health and Safety Guide

Procedures for workplace safety at Kean University

Kean University is committed to providing a campus environment that is accessible and at the same time, safe and secure. To achieve this mission Kean University has created, *Kean University's Health and Safety Guide*, available at www.kean.edu. The Health and Safety Guide shall be followed to ensure compliance with health and safety standards and regulations promulgated by regulatory agencies. The health and safety guide is intended to be used in conjunction with existing university policies and procedures as well as applicable State and Federal regulations concerning health and safety issues. Included within this guide are parts of these general fire safety policies and procedures as well as the university *cutting and welding policy* - *(hot works permit).*

Fire Lanes

The fire official may require and designate public or private fire lanes as deemed necessary for the efficient and effective operation of fire apparatus. Fire lanes shall have a minimum width of 20 feet. Designated fire lanes shall be maintained free of obstructions and vehicles and shall be identified in an approved manner. Parking in a fire lane/zone is strictly prohibited and violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Uniform Fire Safety Act / Uniform Fire Code

Kean University is bound by the regulations set forth in the Uniform Fire Safety Act. A copy of the Uniform Fire Code is on file at the office of the Fire Safety Director located within the Facilities building.

The Uniform Fire Safety Act also referred to as The Uniform Fire Code of the State of New Jersey (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 et seq.) was approved November 12, 1983. The ACT establishes a uniform, *minimum* fire safety code enacted by the ***Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey.***

52:27D-193. Liberal construction

This act is remedial legislation necessary to protect life and property within the State from danger of destruction by fire and explosion and shall be liberally construed to effectuate these purposes.

52:27D-195. Purpose

It is the purpose of this act to ensure that:

a. All areas of this State are protected by a uniform, *minimum*, fire safety code which will protect the lives and property of the State's citizens.
b. Uniform, thorough and adequately funded fire safety inspections protect the public whenever buildings which pose a serious life safety hazard are found.
c. Penalties for violations are both swift and commensurate with the gravity of the offense.

The Uniform Fire Code of the State of New Jersey provides for the local enforcing agency to adopt more restrictive regulations; but does not provide for the local enforcing agency to adopt regulations that are less restrictive than the Uniform Fire Code. It follows that any university administrative official, staff, faculty, student, employee, contractor, vendor etc. does not have authority to suspend, modify, set aside or override any of the regulations of the Uniform Fire Code of the State of New Jersey.

Any and all changes to the above General Fire Safety Policies, Procedures and Instructions shall be made in coordination with the Fire Safety Director of Kean University, to help ensure compliance with the state of New Jersey Uniform Fire Code.

5:70-1.7. Severability

If any provision of the Code or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Code which can be given effect and to this end the provisions of the Code are severable.