

RESIDENTS FOR SPRINKLER FAIRNESS (“RFSF”) Grass Roots Lobbying Group

Our Mission.

We are a volunteer grass roots lobbying group seeking to void the government’s sprinkler mandate that requires installation of sprinkler systems in living and common areas of previously exempt pre – 1974 built high-rise residential buildings.

Who we are.

We are owners, renters, or overseers of cooperatives, condominiums, and rental buildings now facing the unreasonable expenses of sprinkler system retrofits with **no government obligation to defer the cost**. We appreciate the impetus to save lives; however, until we are provided alternative, reasonable means of fire suppression or funding, our members will act.



What we will do.

- Communicate our understanding of the mandate's history, applicable laws, and effective date of compliance
- Educate residents and the public about the mandate's inequities, demonstrating that many of our buildings today possess a measure of fire prevention and suppression infrastructure.
- Protest the Mandate in a unified voice to seek its termination



- Communicate with elected representatives to:
 - Advise them that the mandate unreasonably burdens our constituents, and will erode available housing, particularly affordable housing.
 - Convey hardships anticipated for buildings with asbestos to comply, forcing people to move themselves and their belongings from residences during sprinkler installation
 - Emphasize that because the government has no funding program in place, renters and owners may be forced to permanently vacate. Owners may sell, because of asbestos abatement or otherwise, leaving many units on the market at once, causing precipitous price drops.

- Inform them that 74% of all fires in residential high-rise buildings occur in kitchens, yet sprinklers cannot put out grease fires while handheld extinguishers or fire blankets can do the job!



- Initiate mass letter writing campaigns from residents to government officials, protesting the mandate and elaborating on specific financial and logistical hardships to individuals
- Share status with other members of legislation updates, cost estimates solicited from contractors, and insights about public officials' remarks
- In the event the mandate is not lifted, consider independent legal action