Town of Brunswick, Maine

Incorporated 1739 Brunswick Fire Department



"Working Today for a Safer Tomorrow"



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Dear Bowdoin Students,

Once a decision is made to seek alternative housing outside of college control, an increased awareness for personal safety is a necessity. There are varying degrees of code compliance throughout the community, some far better than others. Please do yourself a favor and take a few minutes to review some of the abundant information provided to you online via trusted sights such as <u>www.usfa.fema.gov</u> and <u>http://www.nfpa.org/</u> Review common causes of fires and learn how to prevent them. Read the data available for off-campus fire incidents, and ask yourself if you are in a safe place. Some key points to consider are:

- Does my unit have smoke alarms? Are they properly placed, and am I sure they work?
- Does every room have at least two ways out that are unobstructed and readily available?
- Do I have an escape plan that includes all of the residents in my unit? Have we practiced it together?
- Is my unit properly protected for the number of students living there? Any more than 4 students per unit typically requires a fire sprinklers and a smoke alarm system for the entire building.

In closing, please remember that if it doesn't look or feel right, it's probably not. I would absolutely encourage phone calls and emails with any questions or concerns that you may have. We will work with you to assure that you are in a place that meets the requirements set in place for your safety.

Sincerely,

Jeff Emerson Deputy Chief Fire Prevention Division