



Assisted Living Emergency Preparedness & Fire Safety

Updated: July 2025 in response to the Fall River tragedy

Note: *We recommend you have your state's regulations regarding emergency preparedness available for any media inquiries.*

Fall River:

- We are deeply saddened by this tragic event, and we extend our deepest sympathies to the residents, staff and families impacted.
- We're grateful to the firefighters and first responders who answered the call, and we will continue to keep the entire Fall River community in our thoughts.
- We understand the desire to seek answers, and we encourage caution on speculating what happened in Fall River until a proper investigation can be conducted.
- *(Calls for additional regulations):* This is a rare tragedy, and out of respect for the victims, we should be judicious in what actions are needed next.

Key Messages:

- Most states have robust emergency preparedness requirements for assisted living communities, including evacuation protocols.
- If a fire emergency does occur, effective procedures and trained staff, complimented by functional fire safety systems, are the best recipe for a positive outcome.
- The health and safety of residents, volunteers and staff is the highest priority for assisted living providers, especially during an emergency.
- *(Calls for additional regulations):* Federal regulation is not a panacea. State regulations are robust, adaptable, provide more localized care models, and uphold safety and security while maximizing independence and autonomy.