



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Public Safety Services



BOBBY JINDAL  
GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM

H. BUTCH BROWNING  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Date: April 5, 2013

To: Owners and Managers of Buildings with Elevators

From: H. "Butch" Browning, Louisiana State Fire Marshal

Re: **Emergency Elevator Access**  
**Act 749 of the 2008 Regular Legislative Session**  
**Act 367 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session**

The Louisiana Legislature passed **Act 749 of the 2008 Regular Legislative Session** and **Act 367 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session** regarding emergency elevator access. Louisiana Revised Statute (La. R. S.) 40:1582 requires the following:

1. **After January 1, 2009:** For each building in this state which is **six or more stories** in height constructed or substantially renovated, that all of the keys for elevators that allow public access (including but not limited to service and freight elevators) be keyed so as to allow all elevators to operate in fire emergency situations with one master elevator key.
2. **Before January 1, 2012:** each **existing** building in this state which is **six or more stories** in height shall be keyed so as to allow all elevators to operate in fire emergency situations with one master elevator key.
3. **After January 1, 2013:** each building in this state, except for one- and two-family dwellings, which is **five or fewer stories** in height in which a new elevator is installed, shall be keyed so as to allow all elevators to operate in fire emergency situations with one master elevator key.

If it is technically, financially, or physically impossible to bring a building into compliance, the State Fire Marshal may allow substitute emergency measures that will provide reasonable emergency elevator access. The Office of State Fire Marshal has promulgated rules for implementation of this law which identifies measures that will assure that each existing building subject to the law can be retrofitted to comply. A copy of the law and rule are included with this memo.

For owners of buildings that are subject to La. R.S.40:1582 and that have not been cited in the field through an inspection by July 1, 2013, the Fire Marshal asks that you submit a plan of correction for implementation of the requirements of this law to the following, no later than January 1, 2014:

Shantelle Brent      [Shantelle.Brent@dps.la.gov](mailto:Shantelle.Brent@dps.la.gov)

We thank you for taking this step in providing a vital measure of safety for your buildings and for first responders who may need access to elevators in times of emergency.

"Is Yours Working"??  
Smoke Detectors Save Lives!!  
**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**  
8181 INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70806  
(225) 925-4911      1-800-256-5452