# Fire Safety Report 2012





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## **Fire Safety at Carlow University**

Fire alarm systems report directly to the Police Department Dispatch Center and are monitored on a twenty-four hour basis. Any fire, smoke or suspicious odor condition should be immediately reported to the Police Department by calling 412-578-6007 or 6007 from a campus phone or push the emergency button using a University phone. Never hesitate to report these conditions, even if you are not sure there is a fire. If a fire condition exists, but was extinguished, the Carlow Police Department must still be contacted. If 911 is called directly, make a follow-up call to the Carlow Police Department so they may meet and facilitate the fire department response.

Residence halls are all equipped with fire safety systems. Please refer to the chart below for information on each residence hall facility.

### Fire Drills, Evacuation and Fire Safety Education

Fire drills are scheduled in residence hall facilities once per semester. All residents and guests are required to evacuate the building when an alarm is activated. During a fire alarm, evacuate the building by using stairs and moving away from the building a distance equal to the approximate height of the building. Do not block parking areas, the roadway, or entrance areas as these may be needed by emergency responders. Drills will be evaluated for their effectiveness by the Police Department and Residence Hall staff.

**No open flames.** Candles, incense, and open flames are prohibited in Carlow University's residence halls, as is smoking.

**Avoid electrical hazards, such as overloaded outlets**. Never overload outlets with multiple extension cords, use cheap or frayed cords, or run cords under rugs. The University prohibits the use of certain appliances, such as halogen lamps and electric blankets, in residence halls. You should consult with Housing and Residence Life staff if you have a question about any appliance.

**Use caution when cooking.** Never leave boiling pots or sizzling pans unattended. If you do start a fire, use a Class B or Class C fire extinguisher if you are comfortable doing so. If you don't have a fire extinguisher, you can smother a fire with baking soda. Never throw water on a grease fire; that will cause it to spread. Your main concern during a fire should be to evacuate, not to extinguish. *Appliances such as hot pots, hot plates, coffee pots, and most microwave ovens are prohibited in Carlow University's residence halls.* 

### **About Carlow's Fire Safety System**

The University relies on a Simplex fire detection system. It includes an enunciator, which identifies and communicates the exact location of the alarm in each residence hall. This system also enables us to use mass notification throughout most campus buildings. Sprinklers are located in each student room and in the halls of both Frances Warde Hall and Dougherty Hall.

Residential Facility	Fire Detection System (Smoke, Heat, Pull Station)			Redundant Monitoring System	Fire Drills Each Year
Francis Warde	Yes	Yes-sprinklers	Yes	Yes	2
Dougherty	Yes	Yes-sprinklers	Yes	Yes	2

#### **Fire Statistics Log**

Residential Facility	Total Fires in Each Building	Date	Time	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Calendar Year 2011							
Francis Warde	0						
Dougherty	1	11/10/11	06:55	cooking	0	0	\$372.50
Calendar Year 2010							
Francis Warde	0						
Dougherty	0						
Calendar Year 2009	0						
Francis Warde	0						
Dougherty	0						

## **Fire Safety Inspections and Improvements**

Fire protection systems are tested annually by a contracted company. Improvements, upgrades or repairs to fire safety systems are made when tests or evaluations indicate a problem exists. Notify Police Departement whenever you notice damage or a possible problem with fire protection equipment. Any fire safety violations will be cited and referred for immediate correction. Violators may be judicially referred.

## **Specific Fire Safety Procedures**

- Be aware of the exit locations in your building.
- If a fire alarm is activated, immediately leave the building. Get others to do the same as you leave.
- Use the stairs, not the elevators, when evacuating the building.
- Move a safe distance away from the building, and do not congregate in roadways.
- If a person is disabled or in need of assistance, tell responding emergency services personnel. Use stairwells as a place or refuge until emergency personnel arrive to safely move the person from the building.
- Close all doors and windows. This will help contain any possible fire, smoke or poisonous gases.
- Use fire extinguishers only on small fires or only if it appears safe to do so. Do not put your own safety in danger.
- Never hesitate to activate a fire alarm system if you suspect fire, smoke or unusual heat.
- Provide emergency responders with any information you may have about the fire alarm condition or persons injured or needing assistance.
- Don't re-enter the building until the alarm stops and emergency personnel provide an "all-clear" message.

#### **Definitions**

**Fire** - Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Fire drill - A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.

**Fire-related injury** - Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of the fire. The term person may include students, faculty, staff, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.

**Fire-related death** - Any instance in which a person is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire, or deaths that occur within 1 year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.

**Fire safety system** - Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire, or the control of a fire including; Sprinkler or other fire extinguishing systems, Fire detection devices, standalone smoke alarms; devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells, or strobe lights, smoke-control and reduction mechanisms, and Fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire.

**Value of Property Damage** - The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity, including: contents damaged by fire, related damages caused by smoke, water, and overhaul, however it does not include indirect loss, such as business interruption.