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Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program
Attn: Engineering Department
142 E. Ontario Street
Chicago, IL 60611

**RE: Request for *Life Safety Code* FSES Equivalency
ABC General Hospital, 123 Main Street, Anytown, State
CCN XXXXX**

Dear HFAP Engineering Department,

I am writing to request an equivalency to resolve a series of life safety deficiencies at ABC General Hospital. The following information describes the deficiencies related to this equivalency request, and a reference to the applicable section of the 2012 edition of the Life Safety Code.

1. Non-conforming construction type: Unprotected steel bar-joists supports the roof in the ceiling of 4th floor North wing, smoke zone 4-2. Non-compliant LSC reference is 19.1.6. Estimated cost to resolve: \$125,000.00
2. Dead-end corridor exceeds 30 feet: Dead-end corridor from Cardiac Rehab extends 52 feet to closest point where two exit access converge, in 1st floor, South wing, smoke zone 1-8. Non-complaint LSC reference is 19.2.5.10. Estimated cost to resolve: \$85,000.00.
3. Sleeping suite exceeds 5,000 square feet: ICU suite is 11,878 square feet in size in 2nd floor North wing, smoke zone 2-2. Non-compliant LSC reference is 19.2.5.6. Estimated cost to resolve: \$250,000.00
4. HVAC duct penetrates fire rated floors and vertical shafts and do not have appropriate fire dampers, in ground, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors of east wing, smoke zones 0-2, 0-3, 0-4, 1-7, 2-4, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 4-3, and 4-4. Non-compliant LSC reference is 8.2.3.2.4.1. Estimated cost to resolve: \$195,000.00

The hardship in resolving these deficiencies is not only financial, but includes a severe disruption to our patient operation services. Relocating patients and physically making changes to the structure of the building will cause unnecessary hardships. None of the above LSC deficiencies impact the safety of the patients or the staff.

Our Fire Safety Evaluation System worksheets, ALSM assessments, and Life Safety drawings will provide you with the information and evidence needed to demonstrate an acceptable level of fire safety, without having to install additional features of life safety.

This hospital is classified healthcare occupancy throughout the entire facility. Included with this equivalency request you will find Fire Safety Evaluation System (FSES) worksheets from NFPA 101A, *Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety*, 2013 edition, for every smoke zone in the hospital.

The hospital is mostly construction type II (222) with the exception of a single-story mechanical room on the ground floor which is Type II (000). This construction type is acceptable for a single-story room and is properly separated from all other areas with 2-hour fire rated barriers.

The hospital is 100% fully protected with automatic sprinklers, with some zones having quick response sprinklers and some zones having standard response sprinklers. All interior finishes are Class A, and all corridor walls are ½-hour fire rated or Smoke Resistant Partition (SRP). All healthcare smoke zones have smoke detection in all occupiable areas.

Due to the prohibitive expense and difficulty in implementing solutions to the Life Safety Code deficiencies identified in this letter and subsequent FSES worksheets, I am requesting an equivalency. Enclosed is a packet of information containing the following items:

- Fire Safety Evaluation System (FSES) analysis for all smoke zones in the hospital;
- Summary table identifying the parameters for each zone;
- Detailed drawings of affected areas;
- Copies of ALSM assessments for the LSC deficiencies.

Please review and approve this equivalency request. Please feel free to contact me to discuss any questions or comments you may have, at the telephone number listed below.

Sincerely,

< NAME >

Senior VP and Chief Operating Officer

ABC General Hospital

(999) 999-9999

Email: _____

Summary Table

In order to provide you with information on how the numerical values were derived for the Safety Parameters that is relative to the FSES worksheets, the following table has been prepared:

	Zone 0-1	Zone 0-2	Zone 0-3	Zone 0-4	Zone 0-5	Zone 1-1
Floor	Ground Floor	Ground Floor	Ground Floor	Ground Floor	Ground Floor	1
Occupancy	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC
Level of Exit Discharge	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	Ground Floor	Ground Floor	Ground Floor	1 st Floor
Construction Type	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)
Service Provided	Pharmacy Rad Onc	Education	Medical Records	Out Patient	Lab	Emergency Room
Is Zone Sprinklered?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is Zone Protected with QR Sprinklers?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Level of Smoke Detection	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone
Interior Finish of Corridors	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Interior Finish of Rooms	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Corridor Walls	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr
Corridor Doors	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute
Travel Distance to Smoke Barrier Door	177 ft.	135 ft.	194 ft.	105 ft.	170 ft.	189 ft.
Life Safety Deficiency Identified on FSES	None	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	HVAC duct penetrates rated walls and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	None	None

	Zone 1-2	Zone 1-3	Zone 1-4	Zone 1-5	Zone 1-6	Zone 1-7
Floor	1	1	1	1	1	1
Occupancy	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC
Level of Exit Discharge	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor
Construction Type	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)
Service Provided	Cath Lab	Surgery	SICU	Radiology	Main Lobby	Admin
Is Zone Sprinklered?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is Zone Protected with QR Sprinklers?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Level of Smoke Detection	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone
Interior Finish of Corridors	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Interior Finish of Rooms	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Corridor Walls	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr
Corridor Doors	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute
Travel Distance to Smoke Barrier Door	155 ft.	116 ft.	147 ft.	90 ft.	105 ft.	168 ft.
Life Safety Deficiency Identified on FSES	None	None	None	None	None	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers

	Zone 1-8	Zone 1-9	Zone 1-10	Zone 2-1	Zone 2-2	Zone 2-3
Floor	1	1	1	2	2	2
Occupancy	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC
Level of Exit Discharge	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor
Construction Type	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)
Service Provided	Cardiac Rehab Outpatient	Servery / Outpatient	Dining Room	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient
Is Zone Sprinklered?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is Zone Protected with QR Sprinklers?	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Level of Smoke Detection	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone
Interior Finish of Corridors	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Interior Finish of Rooms	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Corridor Walls	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr
Corridor Doors	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute
Travel Distance to Smoke Barrier Door	114 ft.	86 ft.	135 ft.	194 ft.	140 ft.	110 ft.
Life Safety Deficiency Identified on FSES	52 ft. dead end corridor	None	None	None	ICU Sleeping suite exceeds allowable area	None

	Zone 2-4	Zone 2-5	Zone 2-6	Zone 3-1	Zone 3-2	Zone 3-3
Floor	2	2	2	3	3	3
Occupancy	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC
Level of Exit Discharge	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor
Construction Type	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)
Service Provided	Inpatient / Outpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient
Is Zone Sprinklered?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is Zone Protected with QR Sprinklers?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Level of Smoke Detection	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone
Interior Finish of Corridors	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Interior Finish of Rooms	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Corridor Walls	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr
Corridor Doors	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute
Travel Distance to Smoke Barrier Door	155 ft.	196 ft.	140 ft.	194 ft.	192 ft.	155 ft.
Life Safety Deficiency Identified on FSES	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	None	None	None	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers

	Zone 3-4	Zone 3-5	Zone 4-1	Zone 4-2	Zone 4-3	Zone 4-4
Floor	3	3	4	4	4	4
Occupancy	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC	HC
Level of Exit Discharge	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor	1 st Floor
Construction Type	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)	Type II (000)	Type II (222)	Type II (222)
Service Provided	Inpatient	Inpatient	Outpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient	Inpatient
Is Zone Sprinklered?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is Zone Protected with QR Sprinklers?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Level of Smoke Detection	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone	Total Spaces in Zone
Interior Finish of Corridors	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Interior Finish of Rooms	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class A
Corridor Walls	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr	< ½ Hr
Corridor Doors	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute	Equal to 20 minute
Travel Distance to Smoke Barrier Door	196 ft.	140 ft.	183 ft.	149 ft.	155 ft.	196 ft.
Life Safety Deficiency Identified on FSES	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	None	None	Non-conforming construction type	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers	HVAC duct penetrates rated floors and vertical shaft do not have fire dampers