



**NATIONAL  
FIRE CODES®**

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## **F Limited Area Design and Installation for Existing Residential Buildings for the Purpose of Life Safety**

*This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.*

### **F.1 Introduction.**

This annex is provided as an aid for building owners and the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) for the design and installation of automatic sprinkler system(s) into existing buildings for the purpose to enhance life safety within the means of egress. It is not the intent of this annex to provide complete information regarding all aspects of the sprinkler system design and installation. If a limited area or partial sprinkler system is voluntarily installed or required by the local AHJ, other sections of NFPA 13 still apply regarding the design and installation.

#### **F.1.1**

Occupants who live in existing multifamily residential occupancies that do not have fire sprinklers are at a higher risk of dying in a fire than those with fire sprinklers. In January of 2022 a fire in a Philadelphia apartment building killed 12 people. Another 17 people were killed in an apartment building located in the Bronx, New York City that same month. In 2017, 13 people died in an apartment building also located in the Bronx, New York City. A common factor in each of these fires was that the means of egress became unsafe due to fire conditions.

#### **F.1.2 Scope.**

Annex F is only intended to apply to fire sprinklers being installed in areas that have been identified as a critical element for life safety of the occupants within the building. These areas would commonly be associated with the means of egress shared among the occupants.

#### **F.1.3 Purpose.**

Annex F provides guidance for a partial fire sprinkler system installed into existing multifamily residential occupancies. Users of Annex F should refer to the text within NFPA 13 for specific requirements for the planning, design, installation, and testing of fire sprinkler systems.