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## *Koffel Talks*



Koffel Associates offers these hour-long Koffel Talks to

larger local area clients and prospects to help them keep abreast of changes and nuances in the codes:

- 2009 NFPA 101® *Life Safety Code*® Updates
- 2009 NFPA 1 Updates
- 2009 IBC Updates
- 2007 NFPA 13
- 2007 NFPA 72
- Overview of the IBC
- Transitioning from the MBRC to IEBC, including Building Rehabilitation Provisions of NFPA 101
- NFPA 101 *Life Safety Code* Basics for Interior Renovations
- Building Rehabilitation Provisions of NFPA 101
- Maryland Fire Prevention Code Update
- Revising the Joint

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## *Complying with TJC Cited Issues*

Koffel Associates can help you with the two most cited issues as identified by The Joint Commission in the July 2009 Edition of The Joint Commission Perspectives publication.

### EC.5.20

Standard EC.5.20 requires hospitals design and maintain newly constructed and existing environments to comply with the *Life Safety Code*. Note that this is Standard LS.01.01.01 of the 2009 Hospital Accreditation Standards (HAS). The elements of performance associated with this standard include assigning a person to assess compliance, completing the electronic Statement of Conditions (eSOC), and managing the resolution of deficiencies; maintaining a current eSOC; and finally, resolving deficiencies using the Plan For Improvement Process. It is no wonder that this is the number one most cited Standard as it is a catch all for problems with the development and maintenance of the eSOC, development and maintenance of PFIs, and deficiencies related to the *Life Safety Code* that are not specifically addressed in other standards.

Koffel Associates' SOC services can be tailored to fit your facility's needs and budget. We recommend conducting a baseline Life Safety Assessment to ensure that your facility meets the requirements of the *Life Safety Code*. This provides a starting point for proper maintenance of your facility. Noting the life safety aspects, we can review occupancy classifications and possibly re-classify areas as other occupancies that might not require a Statement of Conditions, such as fully-separated business occupancies. We can also define suites in areas that are not currently considered suites and note deficiencies that can be remedied by requesting an equivalency from The Joint Commission.

Koffel Associates can also provide your facility with any level of SOC maintenance required, from regularly assessing the facility, to conducting plan reviews of new construction or renovation, to assessing newly constructed areas, to the full maintenance of your SOC, including maintenance of the eSOC on-line.

### EC.5.40

Standard EC.5.40 (currently EC.02.03.05 in the 2009 HAS) requires hospitals maintain fire safety equipment and fire safety building features. This includes the proper testing of sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, special suppression systems, fire extinguishers, fire and smoke dampers, standpipes, fire doors, and shut-down of air handling equipment. There is such a wide range of possible fire protection systems within a hospital that it can be a challenge to keep all the systems straight and ensure that you are meeting all the testing requirements for each type of system.

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## Koffel Talks

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### Commission Standards – A New Chapter in Life Safety

- Fire Protection Requirements of the Unified Facilities Criteria
- Broader use of Fire Modeling in Design Projects
- Basic Principles of Smoke Management Systems
- Overview of Alternative Fire Suppression Systems
- Fire Stop Systems – Real World Problems

Please call Gayle James or email [gjames@koffel.com](mailto:gjames@koffel.com) if you are interested in any of the above training topics, or wish to learn about other training classes we can devise for you.

## TJC Citings (cont'd)

Koffel Associates can review your testing documentation to ensure that you are meeting the proper testing requirements. We can also identify your facility's fire protection systems to ensure that you have all the systems on your list for testing. We can also prepare check-lists to help you meet the testing requirements.

The maintenance of a hospital can be challenging, especially in these times of low budgets and reduced staff.

**Call the experts at Koffel Associates to show you ways to reduce time and costs while protecting your facility against the most cited Environment of Care and Life Safety Standards**

## Koffel Preparedness



Like you, Koffel Associates is taking steps to maintain our level of service and availability despite the upcoming flu season.

While predictions indicate possible widespread absenteeism during the pandemic, we are confident that our number of fire protection engineers and support staff, our ability to telecommute and our

technical connectivity will allow us to continue to respond in a timely fashion.

We have instituted plans to be implemented should we suffer an unusually high number of employee absenteeism. We have plans to remain in contact and communication with you while minimizing any disruptions that the pandemic influenza may cause.

More importantly, we hope the pandemic outbreaks are mild and that you all remain healthy.

## 3-Day Life Safety Code Training for CASHE Members

Sign up today for the *NFPA 101* seminar taught by our Koffel Associates experts. This is the exact same 3-day seminar offered by NFPA, but at deeply discounted rates.

Seating is limited for the November 17–19 seminar at Oak Crest Village. Contact Bill Braid at 410-521-5969 or [wbraid@lifebridgehealth.org](mailto:wbraid@lifebridgehealth.org) to reserve your seat.

