

MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lieutenant Governor

KIAME MAHANIAH, MD, MBA
Secretary, Executive Office
of Health & Human Services

ROBIN LIPSON
Secretary, Executive Office
of Aging & Independence

July 18, 2025

Dear Assisted Living Residence Executive Director:

Following the tragic fire at Gabriel House Assisted Living Residence, the Healey-Driscoll Administration is taking immediate steps to protect the safety and well-being of all assisted living Residents in Massachusetts. While this is a challenging time, it is also an important moment to reflect and reinforce our shared commitment to Resident and staff safety.

These actions are intended to identify and address potential risks and help ensure the safety of Assisted Living Residents and staff. We recognize and appreciate the commitment of all Assisted Living Residences (ALRs) in protecting the well-being of Residents and staff, and we look forward to working together to strengthen these efforts.

To support this shared goal, the Executive Office of Aging and Independence (AGE) is launching a **Fire and Life Safety Review Initiative** beginning **Monday, July 21**. As part of this initiative, all ALRs must complete the following actions:

1. **Resident and Family Notification of Safety Protocols**

Within **5 business days**, ALRs must issue a letter to all Residents and families – if you have not already done so – clearly outlining your fire safety protocols, evacuation procedures, and key points of contact for questions or concerns.

2. **Resident Access to Evacuation Instructions and Postings**

Ensure evacuation instructions and exit routes are posted inside each Resident's unit and in common areas, consistent with best practices for residential life safety and 651 CMR 12.04(11)(a)(5).

3. **Fire Safety Assessment Survey**

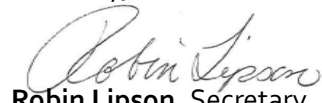
Complete and submit the survey online ([LINK](#)) as soon as possible and no later than **30 calendar days** from the date of this letter. The survey reaffirms compliance with fire safety requirements, including sprinkler systems, fire drills, evacuation protocols, and fire-rated doors and walls. It also requests information about the age and key systems within the ALR building.

4. **Emergency Preparedness Plan Submission**

Submit your current, site-specific Disaster and Emergency Preparedness Plan concurrently with the survey, within **30 calendar days**, using the link above.

We appreciate your leadership and partnership in this effort. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us at ALRHelp@mass.gov.

Sincerely,



Robin Lipson, Secretary
Executive Office of Aging & Independence