Consider these 20 questions before signing your lease!

- Are smoke alarms installed and working?
- How old are the smoke alarms?
- How often are the smoke alarms checked and batteries changed?
- Are there at least two ways to exit your living space and your building?
- Do the upper floors have a fire escape or ladder available for each bedroom? (if there are multiple floors)
- Are the living unit doors rated for fire?
- Are fire extinguishers available and working?
- Do you know how to use a fire extinguisher?
- Were the fire extinguishers inspected within the last year?
- Is a sprinkler system installed?
- Is the electrical wiring adequate?
- Is the building regularly inspected by the local fire department or college emergency management office for safety?
- What is the owner’s policy and method for correcting safety problems in the building?
- Has there ever been a fire in this building? If so, identify the cause. Does the residence have a gas or electric stove/oven?
- Do you know how to use the appliance(s) correctly?
- Where is the nearest fire hydrant on the street?
- Who is responsible for keeping the property cleared in the winter season?
- Is the owner a member in good standing in a landlord/tenant association or other housing association?
- Has the city received any safety complaints regarding this building?

For more information contact:

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