



FIRE DEPARTMENT

9 METROTECH CENTER BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11201-3857

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

EAP Industry Notice # 1
January 2, 2007
Stairwells as In-Building Relocation Areas

To Whom It May Concern:

The concept of utilizing stairwells as designated in-building relocation areas has been given considerable thought and debate. The Department has tapped numerous resources including various Staff Chiefs, (current & retired) Deputy Chiefs, Professional engineers and Legal Counsel. In addition, we have conferred with several members of the original 911 Task Force, whose recommendations were the basis for Local Law 26 and the subsequent RCNY 6-02. We also met with several of the original authors of the Rule. All overwhelmingly agree that it was never their intention to have stairwells act as designated in-building relocation areas. Rather, they should be avoided if at all possible and utilized only as a last resort.

It is in this spirit that RCNY 6-02 sec. F (2) (ii) was written. The Department recognizes the impromptu use of these spaces as a contingency during a catastrophic event. All Emergency Action Plans will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. A decision will be delivered via the Emergency Action Plan Review Unit based on the aforementioned factors.

By order of,
Chief of Fire Prevention