



**Northern Illinois
Fire Sprinkler
Advisory Board**

FireSprinklerAssoc.org

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**Alderman Burke and Pope Introduce Resolution that Questions
Enforcement of City's High-Rise Fire Safety Ordinance**

Orland Park, IL (January 13, 2010) –The Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board (NIFSAB) applauds Aldermen Edward Burke (14th) and John Pope (10th) for introducing a resolution to determine why the City of Chicago failed to enforce a high-rise fire safety ordinance.

The 2004 ordinance requires all residential high-rise buildings built before fire sprinkler systems were required in 1975 to either install a fire sprinkler system or complete and file a Life Safety Evaluation by January 1, 2006. All commercial high-rise buildings are required to install fire sprinkler systems. Since the ordinance was adopted, 652 buildings filed life safety evaluations and more than 100 failed to meet the deadline. Of the buildings that filed, 496 failed the evaluation.

“It is inconceivable that a law governing the safety of the residents of hundreds of high-rise buildings in Chicago has failed to have been properly enforced,” Alderman Burke said.

“The City Council deserves an answer as to why this law has not been strictly followed,” Alderman Pope added.

The measure calls for a Joint Committee on Buildings and the Committee on Police & Fire to “direct the Commissioner of the Department of Buildings and the Commissioner of the Chicago Fire Department to explain the lack of full compliance with the current municipal law.”

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The Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board (NIFSAB) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting progressive legislation, raising public awareness, and educating code officials and governmental policy makers by demonstrating the proven performance of fire sprinklers in saving both lives and property.

For more information visit www.firesprinklerassoc.org.