



[Date]

Property Manager

[Address]

[Address]

Dear Property Manager,

We recently learned about the fire at your building and would like to help you reduce the risk of fire in the future. It is well documented that cigarettes and other smoking materials cause many apartment fires each year. Smoking-related fires are often deadly and costly, but there **is** a way to prevent them.

Live Smoke Free is a program designed to promote smoke-free multi-housing. We work with building managers and owners who are considering transitioning their buildings to be completely smoke free. In addition to providing safer buildings that reduce fire dangers, smoke-free buildings also lead to:

- ✓ Buildings that are healthier, especially for children and seniors.
- ✓ Buildings where maintenance is reduced.
- ✓ Buildings that hold their value because cigarette burns on counters, carpets, and other places are eliminated.

Going smoke free is easy, cost-effective, and legal. Live Smoke Free staff can work with you throughout the entire process to make the transition the best it can be for your buildings.

I have enclosed some information on the benefits and steps to transitioning to a smoke-free building. Live Smoke Free can further assist you by providing free signage, surveys, notification letters, and other resources to your residents or staff. Once a building becomes smoke free, we list the building at no cost on our online smoke-free apartment directory. All tenant inquiries for smoke-free rental housing are directed to our web site.

In the summer of 2006, the Devonshire Apartments in Bloomington unfortunately had a smoking-related fire that caused them to completely renovate an entire 78-unit building. In 2007, they re-opened the building smoke free and are having success advertising their new policy and keeping their smoke-free building filled. We provided Devonshire with the assistance they needed, and we can assist you with strategies that work best for your communities.

If you would like more information on going smoke free, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Live Smoke Free

info@mnsmokefreehousing.org

651-646-3005

A Program of the Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota

2395 University Avenue West, Suite 310 | St. Paul, MN 55114-1512

Phone: 651-646-3005 | Fax: 651-646-0142 | Web site: www.mnsmokefreehousing.org

This work was made possible through a Tobacco-Free Communities grant from the Minnesota Department of Health Tobacco Prevention Program.