

# Membership Update

*GSLA is formerly Georgia-ALFA*

**For Your Information**

**February 2014**

**ALC Modified Fire Safety Regulations – It's official as of January 30, 2014.**

The Modified Fire Safety Regulations have been adopted and are officially in place as of January 30, 2014.

I know many of you have questions about the earlier waiver period granted by the Department of Community Health (DCH) for the use of the name Assisted Living. After reading the following, if you still have questions, please email your questions to me at [genia@gasla.org](mailto:genia@gasla.org) and I will submit them to DCH for clarification.

You will recall that DCH extended the waiver period for communities to use the term Assisted Living to 30 days after the effective date of the Fire Safety Regulations Modifications. We now know the effective date: January 30, 2014. DCH is holding to the 30-day timeframe.

DCH does not plan to extend the waiver period beyond the 30 days granted in the earlier waivers. I received official notice today that the deadline to have an ALC application submitted to DCH is Wednesday, March 5, 2014. **Please note:** This applies to those communities that have Assisted Living in their name and plan to continue to use Assisted Living in their name. If the community does not have – or does not wish to keep – Assisted Living in the name, the deadline does not apply.

DCH expects any PCHs with Assisted Living in their name planning to apply for the ALC licensure to make application to DCH by March 5, 2014. DCH does not expect everything to be finished in the community by this date; you have to have the application submitted to DCH along with an electronic copy of your inspection request to the State Fire Marshal's office. (When the SFM inspector is at your community, he will tell you what has to be done and will leave you a report.) As long as the Dept. (DCH) receives these two pieces of information (ALC application and copy of your SFM email inspection request) by March 5, you will be covered until you find out what needs to be done and prepare a plan of correction for the SFM.

If you have not already started work on the ALC licensure application, I encourage you to do the following:

1<sup>st</sup> - Contact the SFM's office requesting an inspection. Email your request to [engineering@sfm.ga.gov](mailto:engineering@sfm.ga.gov). Retain a copy of the electronic request to submit to DCH with your ALC application.

2<sup>nd</sup> - Complete your ALC licensure application. Submit it along with your State Fire Marshal inspection request to the address in the ALC licensure application package.

**The adopted Modified Fire Safety Regulations and the ALC Licensure application packet are available on our web site at [www.gasla.org](http://www.gasla.org) under the Members Only section.**

**Should you need the DCH and State Fire Marshal web sites:**

State Fire Marshal – For the modified Rules and Regulations: Go to [oci.ga.gov](http://oci.ga.gov)

**Click on Fire Marshal**

Engineering

Rules and Regulations

Click here for current regulations

Rules and Regulations for the State Minimum Fire Safety Standards (11)

**NEW** Chapter 120-3-3

DCH – For the ALC Licensure application: Go to [dch.ga.gov](http://dch.ga.gov)

**Click on Divisions & Offices**

Healthcare Facility Regulation

HFR Forms & Applications

Licensure Forms & Applications

Under Application Packets, find [Assisted Living Communities Initial](#)

[Licensure Application Packet](#)

**February 21<sup>st</sup> Luncheon – 11:30-1:30, Maggiano's Buckhead**  
**Our speakers will be the State Fire Marshal Dwayne Garriss and DCH's Director of Licensure, Victoria (Vickie) Walter.** They will be answering our questions about applying to become licensed as an Assisted Living Community and the use of the term "assisted living." *Please be sure to register in advance and attend this informative event!* Registration notices have already gone out by email and fax. If our communication did not reach you, just call the GSLA office to register, 678-407-2060.

**Thanks to our February 21 Luncheon sponsor!**  
**Collier's Personal Care Pharmacy**

**2014 Membership Dues Investments for Providers and Industry Partners are now due.** Don't miss out on receiving important updates and information from GSLA; renew promptly! If you have questions, please email ([genia@gasla.org](mailto:genia@gasla.org)) or call (404-583-1261) Genia Ryan, President/CEO. Our thanks to those of you who have already made payment.

**Advocacy Day February 26, 2014**

Plan to join GSLA leadership on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at the State Capitol to talk about the senior living industry with our senators and representatives. Please watch for our registration flyer or contact Genia Ryan for more information, 404-583-1261, or email [genia@gasla.org](mailto:genia@gasla.org). We'd love to have you join us!

**For sponsorship opportunities, questions or need more information about anything in this update?** Please contact Genia Ryan at [genia@gasla.org](mailto:genia@gasla.org) or 404-583-1261.

**Upcoming Events - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014!**

- **GSLA Bi-Monthly Membership Luncheon** is Friday, Feb. 21, at Maggiano's Buckhead.
- **GSLA Advocacy Day** is Wednesday, Feb. 26, under the Gold Dome.