



## Building Safety Week Fill-in-the-Blank Letter to the Editor

*To help you promote Building Safety Week and the important role you play in your community, the International Code Council is providing you with this draft Letter to the Editor to promote your department with local newspapers, television and radio. Go to [www.buildingsafetyweek.org](http://www.buildingsafetyweek.org), download the letter, fill in the appropriate information and mail it to your local newspaper's editorial page editor in early April. Be sure to list any special events you will be holding in conjunction with Building Safety Week.*

Dear Editor:

America will celebrate Building Safety Week from May 3 through 9. The theme is "Building Safety: Where You Live, Work and Play." The **(name of jurisdiction and department)** is participating this year. First observed in 1980, Building Safety Week annually raises public awareness of critical safety issues affecting every person, regardless of age or occupation. These entail the structural soundness of the buildings where we live and work, reliability of fire prevention and suppression systems, plumbing and mechanical systems, and energy efficiency and sustainability.

*(Insert a reference to a local news story illustrating a recent example of the value of building safety.)*

Inspectors, plan reviewers and others in the **(name of jurisdiction and department)** work to ensure the safety of the structures in which all of us live, work, attend school, worship and play. These officials provide the first line of defense against building disasters. We are silent but vigilant guardians who work daily to ensure safety in the built environment.

*(Insert brief summaries of your building department accomplishments. Remind the community how it obtains permits and for what projects they are required.)*

Local activities during Building Safety Week include **(insert any activities you have planned including date, time and location)**. Attractive educational materials are available for schools and the community at large; for example, brochures about flood cleanup, mold prevention, green building and preparing for natural disasters. The public is encouraged to participate and learn about the essential safety work of the **(name of jurisdiction and department)**.

The **(name of jurisdiction and department)** is a member of the International Code Council. The sponsor of Building Safety Week, the Code Council develops the most widely used building safety and fire prevention codes in the nation.

**Your Name**

**Your Title**

**Your Office Phone Number**