TJC & CMS Physical Environment Update

6820 Deerpath Road Elkridge, MD 21075

WHEN

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Program Overview

The Joint Commission is retiring the EC and LS Chapters and replacing them with a new PE Chapter (Physical Environment).

During the 2024 Joint Commission Executive Briefings, it was announced that the Joint Commission is replacing the Environment of Care (EC) and Life Safety (LS) Chapters with a new Physical Environment (PE) Standard, planned to be effective in 2025.

This change was presented by the Director of Physical Environment Department Herman McKenzie, MBA, CHSP who also stated that all the Elements of Performance (EP) in the new chapter will be in alignment with the CMS Conditions of Participation (CoP), which have incorporated the NFPA codes referenced in NFPA 101-2012, chapter 2. The goal is approximately 3 EP's for each CoP, although there will be some exceptions. Also, some legacy Standards that are not required by CMS will be removed.

About the Speaker

GEORGE MILLS, CEO of ATG (a JLL-owned company) and Director of Technical Operations, JLL Healthcare Solutions

George Mills is the CEO of ATG and Director of Technical Operations for JLL Healthcare Solutions. As CEO of ATG, he provides innovative strategies related to compliance programs and their architecture and space division. As Director of Technical Operations for JLL Healthcare, he has standardized their delivery model and

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support network of the Performance Optimization Group. This team supports account teams with innovation, program development, and ensuring the goals of higher reliability are achieved. George was formerly the Director for the Department of Engineering at The Joint Commission. In this role, George provided standards interpretation and education to The Joint Commission's Surveyors and accredited organizations and is a nationally recognized speaker and author. During his tenure at The Joint Commission, he led the team creating the Elements of Performance for the Environment of Care and Life Safety Chapters, reconciling with the CMS adoption of the 2012 Life Safety Code.

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