Your comments

If you have any further comments or recommendations regarding crime prevention and unauthorised entries, please do share it with us. They will be highly appreciated.



unique combination of situation and social crime prevention since 1999

Your contact information

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Please, spare a minute on unthorised entries i You can leave it in the paper THANK YOU! into multi-apartment her box or return it to e questionnaire - apartment buildings.



Conflict between Fire and Crime prevention in practise

The main entrance is used also as an emergency exit in many apartment building, many of them have one entrance only. It is impossible to use 100% access control on such entrances. The door must enable safe exit without any obstructions to any person inside the building in case of emergency. The problem is to create such security measures which will provide safe exit in emergency but not 24hours a day when there is no emergency. The devices and systems of emergency exits installed are often and very easily misused.

What happens very often in practise is that despite very high quality access control system individuals with bad intentions get inside the apartment building. They get there very simply, walking in along with an elderly resident, along a child coming back from school, along a mum with a pushchair. These are the groups of residents who are not able to physically prevent entries of such individuals, because they are worried and scared, especially when the person entering along with them is some well-built man. If this individual commits a crime inside the building there is nothing stopping him from leaving the premises freely. There is nothing that would make him behave any different from a regular visitor leaving their friends' apartment.

Unauthorised entries into multi-apartment buildings

The unauthorised entry issue follows up with the fire vs crime prevention problem. The apartment building and its peripheral boundaries are not defined by the law unlike the other forms of private ownership, e.g. family house, office building or industrial premises. The shared common areas in the apartment building such as the halls, stairways, lifts are frequently referred to areas accessible to the public, i.e. accessible to anybody who decides to enter the building.

The question is, if it is possible to consider for being accessible to the public also the common areas of apartment building which the owners secured by means of technical equipment proclaiming the boundary of their private property which they do not want to make accessible to anyone but the authorised persons and legitimate visitors.

The residents - owners of such secured apartment buildings regard the unauthorized entry as any intentional entry without authorisation. It can be either a forced entry or sneaking into to the building usually passing by the authorised person. The owners are not sure what their rights are or what the Police officer's authority is in case of an unauthorised entry into common areas of the apartment building, if the person who has entered the building without permission can be ordered to leave or be forced to leave the premises, how to regard the forcible opening of the main entrance door (kicking down the door) or any other forcible and damaging behaviour towards the owners property this person commits in order to accomplish unauthorised entry.

fire vs. crime

1. Do you meet with similar problem of fire and crime prevention regulations in your country?

Please explain your answer.

yes

no

unauthorised entries

3. How is the unauthorised entry into common areas of an apartment building understood in your legislation?

2. How do you overcome the problem related to misuse of emergency exit systems?

4. What are the sanctions for the unautorised entry into common areas of an apartment building?

5. What is the Police Officer's authority in case of unauthorised entries into an apartment building in your country?