

## Robert V Ferrara

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**From:** mitailg-discuss-bounces@MIT.EDU on behalf of Steve Baker <sbaker@baker-wohl.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 9:44 PM  
**To:** 'MIT AILG'; mitailg-discuss@mit.edu; fsilg-pres@mit.edu  
**Cc:** Henry J. Humphreys; Sarah Eusden Gallop  
**Subject:** [Mitalg-discuss] Changes to guest policy for Boston FSILGs  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.c  
**Importance:** High

Friends and Fellow Stakeholders of the MIT FSILG Community:

We have some good news to share with our Boston members concerning the current Boston restriction on assembly occupancy in FSILGs; read below. But first, here is an update on the status of our pending assembly occupancy submissions with the City of Boston's Inspectional Services Department (ISD). As we reported to you about a month ago, with the support of the AILG Board, MIT DSL has engaged the services of a code consultant to develop revised assembly occupancy submissions to the City. That consultant is working on the documentation and should be making a submission to ISD within the next two weeks. We hope to have a permanent solution (in the form of new accessory use assembly permits) in place for each Boston FSILG very soon.

In the interim, because this process is taking longer than we expected, DSL and AILG have asked the code expert to advise us whether there is any flexibility of interpretation of the City's prohibition on assemblies in the Boston FSILGs. We are happy to report that, after further review, the consultant offered the following suggestions for interim activities while the permanent applications are still pending.

The prohibition against assemblies (defined as gatherings of 50 people or more) remains in effect until further notice, but effective immediately, **all Boston FSILGs may resume having guests for small gatherings and events**, subject to the following constraints:

- **Each resident may have one non-resident guest in your house at any one time.** You can do the math: if you have 30 current residents, your maximum capacity at any one time will be 60. Note that your number of current residents is NOT your legal dormitory capacity; it is the number of members currently residing in the house.
- **No more than 49 people may occupy any single room or space within the house at any one time.** In order to avoid creating an "assembly" as defined in the code, you may not have more than 49 people in any one space, even for chapter meetings.

Friends, we know that there will be a strong desire by the students to put their famed problem-solving abilities to work on finding a work-around for the above constraints. The AILG Board and DSL expects that you will avoid the temptation to do so: the limits set above are not guidelines to be worked around; they are hard requirements. **Failure by any FSILG to comply could put the entire system at further risk.**

The Division of Student Life and the AILG Board are making this change after consultation with the code expert who is currently working on this issue with us. The consultant has advised us that in his professional opinion, allowing each resident to have up to one guest at a time in a house, where residents and guests are distributed throughout the house and not concentrated in one room or space, is not an assembly and thus is consistent with the building code and the City of Boston's prohibition on assemblies.

**CPW events can go forward as planned**, provided they comply with the above limitations and standing MIT rules. If you want to host pre-frosh overnight for CPW, however, you may not exceed your posted dormitory occupancy limit for the number of people sleeping in the house. If you are 5 residents below your maximum dormitory capacity, then you can have 5 pre-frosh stay over.

We should all thank Dean Colombo and Senior Associate Dean Humphreys for their work to make this change happen.

If you have questions about this change, please post them to [mitailg-discuss@mit.edu](mailto:mitailg-discuss@mit.edu); we will try to answer any and all questions there.

Best regards,

Steve Baker ('84, Theta Xi)  
AILG Chair