

Questions & Answers for Fire Survivors

WHO CAN I TURN TO FOR CREDIBLE ADVICE?

Many resources are available to help survivors cope with the aftermath resulting from fire disasters. There are many state and federal agencies, community-based and non-profit organizations that can assist you. Among them, The American Institute of Architects, California Council (AIACC) can provide professional, accurate and timely advice about the structure rebuilding process. We assist you in navigating through the comprehensive disaster relief infrastructure and help direct you to resources that serve your specific needs.

WHAT THINGS SHOULD I CONSIDER REGARDING FIRE DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION?

Do I inventory household or business items that were damaged or destroyed?
How do I deal with my insurance company?
Should I keep a written account of all conversations them?
How do I protect myself against scams?
Should I rebuild my home, or more?
If I decide to rebuild, do I have to act quickly?

The AIACC will help you become educated about the options that lie ahead. Any successful recovery process takes time and requires complete awareness of your actual damages, as well as the benefits and resources that are available.

WHAT IS THE REBUILDING PROCESS?

Those affected by the fire destruction will consider rebuilding. Members of The AIACC can lead you through the process, with accurate, technical and design advice. When planning to rebuild a home or business after a disaster, an architect will discuss the opportunities available to you, the process required

to begin building and pitfalls to avoid that may put you at risk in the future. An architect provides information on subjects such as streamlined demolition, new building regulations and the building approval process.

HOW CAN I CHECK IF AN ARCHITECT HAS PROPER CREDENTIALS?

The AIACC urges individuals to use caution when rebuilding and to confirm licensure of any architect or contractor.

Architect licenses can be verified at: www.cab.ca.gov.

Contractor licenses can be verified at:
www.cslb.ca.gov/Consumers/consumers-overview.asp.

ARE ARCHITECTS TRAINED IN DISASTER RELIEF?

One of the architectural profession's greatest contributions to public health and safety is the offering of skilled, expert response assistance after a disaster. Members of The AIACC adhere to an ethical policy that states they will not take advantage of disaster situations or the people involved.

Please visit www.aiacc.org for a comprehensive list of rebuilding resources.



Service. Leadership. Rebuilding. Restoring.



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