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St. Petersburg, FL, the Latest Community Endangered by Fire in a Wood-Framed Building

Build With Strength Statement on Fire at Enclave Apartment Building

St. Petersburg, FL – Late last night, [a fire broke out at the Enclave](#), a lightweight, wood-framed apartment complex, in what authorities are calling “a complete loss.” Firefighters were at the scene but had to extinguish the wood-fueled blaze from the exterior, on account of the inherent danger. According to reports, at least a dozen people have lost their homes as a result of the fire.

The St. Pete fire comes amidst a string of other spectacular lightweight, wood-framed apartment fires this year – most notably in [Arlington, VA](#), [College Park, MD](#); [Overland Park, KS](#); [Raleigh, NC](#); and [Maplewood, NJ](#).

“The fact of the matter is that once again families are without a home tonight and firefighters bravely put their life on the line for what is an entirely preventable disaster,” said Kevin Lawlor, a spokesperson for Build with Strength, a coalition of fire service professionals, engineers, architects, and industry experts. “The use of combustible building materials in low- to mid-rise buildings has to stop before more devastation or loss of life occurs.”

Some Florida towns and cities, [such as Maitland](#), are trying to take a proactive approach and preemptively ban the use of combustible materials, such as wood, in this type of construction. City officials are currently reviewing the best way to address this concern with the state.

“Lawmakers across the state of Florida, and at all levels, should look into how they can follow cities like Maitland to prevent these tragedies from affecting their constituents,” said Lawlor.

Resource: [America is Burning](#)

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Kevin Lawlor at klawlor@buildwithstrength.com.

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