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**New Jersey Sprinkler Fitters Union Joins Build with Strength**  
*Partnership Represents a Formidable Alliance in Fire Safety*

**Silver Spring, MD**—This week, the New Jersey Sprinkler Fitters Union announced that they will be joining Build With Strength, a coalition of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) consisting of community organizations, fire safety professionals, engineers, architects and industry experts committed to strengthening the nation’s building codes and ensuring greater access to secure housing. The partnership will be effective immediately.

The bedrock for the union between Build with Strength and the Sprinkler Fitters is formed from a shared urgency to halt the increasing frequency of residential fires. Since 2008, American communities have seen a dramatic surge in mid- and high-rise combustible-framed fires, and have struggled to implement an effective solution.

“Our state’s growing trend of mid- and high-rise residential building fires is extremely troubling to us as a union, but also as private citizens,” says Wayne Miller, the Business Manager for Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 692. “Build with Strength’s statewide and national reach will not only help our union better advocate for fire safety and prevention, but I’m also confident that it will help us to better keep our families and neighbors safe.”

As a union also dedicated to education and awareness, the New Jersey Sprinkler Fitters emphasize hands-on training and cutting edge technology in fire containment and prevention. Kevin Bellew, Business Manager for Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 696, sees the partnership with Build with Strength as an opportunity to further advance their agenda for fire prevention in the state of New Jersey.

“Build with Strength presents a unique perspective in terms of fire safety,” says Bellew. “They work not only with industry experts and politicians, but also with communities. Awareness among the public is as important as anything. Their connections within the construction industry and grassroots approach to fire safety will open a lot of doors for our union.”

In the wake of the nationwide trend of increasing residential fires, Build with Strength has recently intensified their outreach. Their partnership with the New Jersey Sprinkler Fitters Union is one among many new alliances for the coalition, however this particularly collaboration is touted by Build with Strength as especially valuable to fire prevention and safety.

Build with Strength works with communities, lawmakers, and industry employees to advocate for safer, sustainable building materials. Strengthening local and national building codes is among the organization’s top priorities.

Learn more at [www. http://buildwithstrength.com/](http://buildwithstrength.com/)

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