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In the Northeast, a 100-year-old health care institution recently faced this problem with facilities ranging from the 1890s through the early 1970s.

During an unannounced CMS validation survey, inspectors encountered a number of violations, not the least of which was not having updated life safety drawings and documentation. The subsequent CMS inspection report contained a number of condition-level deficiencies, which could lead to a terminated Medicare contract if not fixed within 90 days.



Life safety inspections aren't doom and gloom. Life safety codes exist to ensure health care institutions are able to provide the highest quality of care, which is a very good thing for patients and institutions.

The key to looking at inspections in a positive light is understanding the codes and having the certainty that your facilities are compliant.

Joe Cassata leads **CannonDesign's** facility optimization solutions team in its efforts to help organizations understand and leverage their facility assets to be more efficient, effective, and sustainable. He has more than 20 years of experience as a project manager and partners with clients on developing insightful facility-condition assessments, maintenance planning, asset management, space-use studies, and other services. This article originally appeared on the CannonDesign Blog. CannonDesign is a CFE Media content partner.

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