

# Main Street Memo

## Cellars



Click QR Codes for Reports on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street & Broadway Cellar fire



### Quick Tips on Commercial Cellar Fires

- Units heading down into cellars may be unaware of this buildup and fire can break out behind them. A lookout should be posted outside the cellar entrance to observe these conditions and a backup or protection line should be in place.
- Cellar entrances may have chutes or coasters used for deliveries. Care must be exercised to ensure that these are secure and do not trap members after they have descended into the cellar.
- Cast-iron columns supporting the first floor may be found in the cellar. These columns are many times unprotected, and may fail under fire conditions.
- Heavy terrazzo or concrete is sometimes placed over wood joist floor construction, an exceptionally hazardous condition. A fire in the cellar may weaken floor supports. Sudden failure due to the weight on the floor is possible.
- **BE ALERT TO RENOVATIONS IN YOUR DISTRICT!**

