August 12, 2021

Dear residential elevator owner,

Records indicate that you own a private residential elevator, which is permitted by the Mechanical Compliance Section of the Division of Industrial Relations. **If your elevator was installed prior to June of 2020, your elevator doors may pose a hazard to small children.** If your elevator is of a type which does not have doors (e.g., a stairway chairlift), then you may disregard this letter.

**Residential elevators pose a hidden and potentially deadly hazard:** Small children can be injured or killed in a gap that may exist between the doors. If the gap between a room access door and the elevator car door (which is often an accordion door) is too deep, a child can enter and close the room access door without opening the elevator car door, and become entrapped between the two doors, resulting in serious injuries or death when the elevator car moves. Children, aged 2 to 12 years of age, have been killed in this gap, suffering multiple skull fractures, fractured vertebrae and traumatic asphyxia. Other children have suffered devastating and lifelong injuries. In July of 2021, a 7-year-old child was reported to have tragically died in a vacation home elevator on the East Coast.

![Diagram of elevator doors with gap](image)

**What you should do:** Contact your licensed elevator contractor as soon as possible so that they can evaluate the doors of your elevator. If you do not currently have a licensed elevator contractor, please contact our office for a list of currently licensed contractors. You may also contact our office for a free consultation from a State elevator inspector in order to determine the safety of your elevator.

Please contact the Mechanical Compliance Section with any questions or concerns you may have.