The Fire and Life Safety Division (FLS) is responsible for the application of laws and regulations related to fire and panic safety in state-owned, specified state-occupied buildings, and state institutions. These include places of detention, high-rise buildings, residential apartment houses, schools, camps, places of assembly, hospitals, care facilities and other occupancies directly under the jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal (SFM).

To accomplish its responsibilities, FLS performs plan review, construction inspections, mandated code compliance inspections, permitting, inspection of special events, and assisting with origin and cause of fires. FLS assists with damage inspection statewide for wildland fires, major conflagrations, and disasters such as earthquakes.

FLS maintains relationships with the California Fire Service in matters relating to statutes and regulations training, code application, and code enforcement to assist in resolution of code related issues.