

Connelly Act Notice of Asbestos Containing Materials

The [California Health and Safety Code](#), Division 20, Chapter 10.4, Section 25915, known as the Connelly Act, requires that building occupants be notified of the existence of asbestos containing material, or ACM, for buildings constructed prior to 1979.

Asbestos is a natural mineral composed of many thin fibers. Prior to 1979, asbestos was commonly used in building materials because of its insulation, sound-absorbent and fire-retardant qualities. Asbestos is safe when bonded to other materials with binding agents, such as glue and mastics. When ACM is intact, the material presents minimal health risk. Bonded or “non-friable” asbestos fibers are sturdy but may become loose due to cutting, grinding or drilling during remodeling, demolition or other building maintenance operations. ACM can also be categorized as “friable” - easily crumbled or powdery. Asbestos can be released if friable ACM is disturbed.

The Los Angeles Herald Examiner Building underwent extensive remodeling and asbestos abatement. Almost all known ACM within the building was removed during remodeling. However, small quantities of “non-friable” ACM remains. In addition, small amounts of friable asbestos have been enclosed to bind the ACM and reduce the potential for disturbance. Intact, sealed and undisturbed ACM is not a health hazard. Analysis of air samples collected at various locations in 2019, indicated that airborne asbestos fiber levels were below the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s recommended re-occupancy level of 0.010 fibers per cubic centimeter. Specific building locations known to contain ACM are described below.¹

Floor	Location	Type of Material
Basement	Room 004, Former Boiler Room	Boiler insulation debris (Enclosed)
Basement	Room 004, Former Boiler Room	Boiler insulation (Enclosed)
1 st Floor	Historic Elevator No. 1	Floor tile and mastic
1 st Floor	Historic Elevator No. 2	Floor tile mastic
4 th Floor	Shaft Behind Historic Elevator No. 1	Transite pipe

Asbestos does not pose a health threat unless friable asbestos fibers become airborne due to damage or disturbance. The primary route of entry for asbestos fibers is inhalation or ingestion. Significant and long-term exposure to asbestos from activities that disturb ACM can lead to various respiratory diseases, including asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma.

There is a low risk of exposure to students, faculty and visitors at the LA Herald Examiner Building. However, to further reduce risk, all employees should follow these basic guidelines:

- Avoid disturbing ACM.
- Do not break, drill or remove floor tiles.
- Do not disturb ACM when performing maintenance activities.

If you have any questions, please email [ASU EHS](#) or call 480-965-1823.

¹ The locations were identified in a August 17, 2020, report prepared by a firm specializing in asbestos surveillance.