

***Insurance Times:*** Many NY City skyscrapers unsafe, claims retired fire chief  
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NEW YORK (AP) — A retired New York City deputy fire chief and a leading fire safety consultant says that many of the city's high-rise buildings contain hazards, a report said.

Vincent Dunn said in an interview with *The New York Times* that firefighters would have a hard time extinguishing blazes in many of the city's newer buildings with open floor plans.

"The fire chief, if he wants to keep his job ... he can't tell you the truth. He isn't going to come out and say that we can't extinguish fires in a lot of these newer buildings with 20, 30,000 square feet of open floor plans. I can tell you because I'm retired," Dunn told the *Times*.

Dunn also said that some 2,000 high-rise buildings don't have the antennas needed for fire department radios to work. Dunn said the city needs to implement a "zero tolerance" policy for high-rises that lack sprinklers.

Dunn retired from the department three years ago. His three books, including "Collapse of Burning Buildings," are staples in fire-safety courses throughout the country.

In addition to his concerns about the city's high-rises, Dunn has been outspoken about the construction of the World Trade Center. "There is no other high-rise office building in New York City that would have pancaked down in 10 seconds," Dunn said. "This was a fragile, unorthodox construction that should never have been allowed. It was a disaster waiting to happen."