Rule #5 of the "Rules and Regulations Relating to the Filing of Site Safety Programs and the Designation of Site Safety Managers" of the Building Administrative Code currently requires that signs be erected at major construction sites bearing the name, address and telephone number of both the property owner and the general contractor. In addition, the telephone numbers of the Department of Buildings and the Department of Transportation must be prominently displayed.

On September 16, 1987, Mayor Koch created the Office of Language Services Coordinator as part of New York City's commitment to meeting the needs of its limited English speaking population. As a result, city agencies were asked to develop proposals in which they could bring their services to limited English speaking clients throughout New York City. Included in the Department of Buildings' proposal was the recommendation "that signs at major construction sites display emergency contact information in English and Spanish or other appropriate languages," thereby providing access to non-English speaking public to agencies with jurisdiction over safety at such sites.

Effective July 7, 1989, Rule #5 will be amended to require that emergency contact information be prominently displayed in both English and Spanish on signs erected at major site safety construction sites as defined under the law. Major site safety construction sites approved by the Department on or after July 7, 1989 will be required to comply.

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