



Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

WHEREAS, the Prattville Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in, working in and visiting Prattville; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the location where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 369,500 home fires. These fires resulted in 2,755 civilian fire fatalities, 12,200 civilian fire injuries and an estimated \$6.8 billion in direct property damage. There was a civilian fire death every 2 hours and 42 minutes and a civilian fire injury every 33 minutes in 2013. Home fires were 85% of the 3,240 civilian fire fatalities while half of these fires were reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, fires killed 81 people in the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, while the risk of a fatality in the home caused by fire increases with the age of the occupants, research shows a working smoke alarm cuts the risk of a home fire fatality in half and an automatic fire sprinkler system in the home cuts the risk by approximately 80%. Alabamians who install smoke alarms and alert devices to accommodate all hearing impaired occupants inside and outside all sleeping areas, on all levels of the home and who plan and practice a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires, fire deaths and injuries through prevention and education; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs and the Office of the State Fire Marshal met to address the alarming increase in fire fatalities, and have invited all fire service and injury prevention organizations to join with them; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Fire Prevention theme, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" effectively serves to remind us all that working smoke alarms provide crucial time to keep our home and families safe from fire.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Gillespie Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 4 through 10, 2015 as

Fire Prevention Week

in the City of Prattville, and encourage residents to prepare and practice a home fire escape plan, install smoke alarms on all levels and sleeping areas of the home, test their smoke alarms regularly and have fire extinguishers available in their homes.



Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of Prattville on the 2nd day of October 2015.

Bill Gillespie Jr.

Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.