

Proclamation

In Recognition of
Fire Prevention Week
October 9-15, 2016

- WHEREAS**, the City of Fort Lauderdale is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; and
- WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are where people are at greatest risk from fire; and
- WHEREAS**, U.S. fire departments responded to 369,500 home fires in 2014, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); and
- WHEREAS**, U.S. home fires resulted in 2,745 civilian deaths in 2014, representing the majority (84 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths; and
- WHEREAS**, in one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, the smoke alarms are not working; and
- WHEREAS**, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without smoke alarms (38 percent) or with no working smoke alarms (21 percent); and
- WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and
- WHEREAS**, many Americans don't know how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, or how often they need to be replaced; and
- WHEREAS**, all smoke alarms should be replaced at least once every ten years; and
- WHEREAS**, the age of a smoke alarm can be determined by the date of its manufacture, which is marked on the back of the smoke alarm; and
- WHEREAS**, the City of Fort Lauderdale's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and
- WHEREAS**, Fort Lauderdale's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and
- WHEREAS**, the 2016 Fire Prevention Week theme, "**Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years**" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of replacing the smoke alarms in their homes at least every ten years, and to determine the age of their smoke alarms by checking the date of manufacture on the back of the alarms.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim, **October 9-15, 2016** as:

Fire Prevention Week

in the city of Fort Lauderdale and urge our neighbors to find out how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, to replace them if they're more than 10 years old, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Fort Lauderdale's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2016.

DATED this, the 5th day of October 2016


Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

