



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 1,240,000 fires. These fires resulted in 3,240 civilian fire fatalities, 15,925 civilian fire injuries and an estimated \$11.5 billion in direct property loss. There was a civilian fire death every 2 hours and 42 minutes and a civilian fire injury every 33 minutes in 2013. Home fires caused 2,755, or 85%, of the civilian fire deaths; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, fire 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%; and

WHEREAS, Alabamians 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, Alabamians 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 and 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 2014 Fire Prevention theme, "Turn your Attention to Fire Prevention!" effectively serves to remind us all of the simple actions we can take 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 2014 as

Fire Prevention Month

in the City of Prattville, and encourage residents to prepare and practice a home fire escape plan, check 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 1st day of October 2014.

Bill Gillespie Jr.

Mayor Bill Gillespie Jr.