



WHEREAS, the city of Key West, Florida is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Key West; 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, Key West's residents should install smoke alarms and alert devices that meet the needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Key West Fire Department is dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; 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.

THEREFORE, I Craig Cates, Mayor and Billy Wardlow, District III Commissioner of Key West do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2016, as

Fire Prevention Week

throughout this city. I urge all the people of Key West 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 Key West fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2016.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 5th day of October 2016.

Billy Wardlow, Dist. III Commissioner

Craig Cates, Mayor