



WHEREAS, the City of Key West is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Key West and fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire with home fires killing 2,735 people in the United States in 2016, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 352,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, the majority of U.S. fire deaths (4 out of 5) occur at home each year with the fire death rate per 1000 home fires reported to U.S. fire departments being 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Key West's residents should identify places in their home where fires can start and eliminate those hazards; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half therefore residents should install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home and have a planned and practiced home fire escape plan; and

WHEREAS, Key West's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education and residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take action to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware – fire can happen anywhere™" effectively serves to remind us that we need to take personal steps to increase our safety from fire.

THEREFORE, I Craig Cates Mayor of the City of Key West do hereby proclaim October 7-13, 2018, as

## **Fire Prevention Week**

throughout this city, and I urge all the residents and visitors to be aware of their surroundings, look for available ways out in the event of a fire or other emergency, respond when the smoke alarm sounds by exiting the building immediately, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Key West's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2018.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2018.

---

Craig Cates, Mayor