



WHEREAS, the City of Key West is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our island; and

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

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,600 people in the United States in 2010, according to the latest research from the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to more than 369,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, only one-third of Americans have both developed and practiced a home fire escape plan, and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of Americans do have an escape plan; however, less than half have actually practiced it, and

WHEREAS, one-third of Americans households who made one and estimate they thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life threatening. The time available is often less, and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; 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 City of Key West'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 2012 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Have Two Ways Out!" effectively serves to remind us to develop and practice a home fire escape plans during Fire Prevention Week and year-round.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Craig Cates, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim  
October 7<sup>th</sup> through October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as

## *Fire Prevention Week*

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I urge all the people of Key West to practice their home fire escape plan during Fire Prevention Week 2012, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of The Key West Fire Department's fire and emergency services.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2012.

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Craig Cates, MAYOR