PROCLAMATION

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 2015, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); and

WHEREAS, U.S. home fires resulted in 2,560 civilian deaths in 2015, representing the majority (78 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths; and

WHEREAS, newer homes are built with lightweight, materials that burn faster than older home construction; and

WHEREAS, many of today's products and furnishings produce toxic gases and smoke when burned, making it impossible to see and breathe within moments; and

WHEREAS, a home fire escape plan includes two exits from every room in the home; a path to the outside from each exit; smoke alarms in all required locations; and a meeting place outside where everyone in the home will meet upon exiting; 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

WHEREAS, the 2017 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of developing a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and practicing it twice a year;

.

THEREFORE, I Craig Cates, Mayor and Billy Wardlow, District III Commissioner of Key West do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2017, as

Fire Prevention Week

throughout this city. I urge all the people of Key West to develop a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and practice it twice a year, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Key West's Fire and Emergency Services during Fire Prevention Week 2017.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 3rd day of. October 2017.

_____   _____
Billy Wardlow, Dist. III Commissioner   Craig Cates, Mayor