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FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 22, 2016

**SAVE YOUR LIFE...
CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARM!**

Since January 1, 2016, the City of Memphis has experienced 22 fire fatalities. In most of these incidents, no working smoke alarm was found in the home. Early notification and prompt evacuation are two of the most important life-saving factors during a fire event! The use of smoke alarms as early alarm devices, and the regular practice of home fire evacuation drills have been proven to substantially increase your chances of survival when experiencing a fire.

The City of Memphis offers installed smoke alarms and replacement batteries **FREE** of charge for homeowners who cannot afford to purchase them. Applications for the city's smoke alarm program can be obtained by stopping by ANY community fire station, or by contacting the Fire Museum of Memphis at 901.636.5650. The City of Memphis does **NOT** provide smoke alarms to rental property owners; however, owners of residential rental properties are **REQUIRED** to install working smoke alarms to protect all sleeping areas in **EACH** residential unit.

Smoke alarms are to be tested monthly, and must be replaced when not operating properly. Tenants in rental properties are required to perform the monthly functional tests, and are to report any malfunction to the property owner for immediate replacement. Battery operated smoke alarms should have their batteries replaced every six months. The Memphis Fire Department recommends that you **REPLACE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES WHENEVER YOUR CLOCKS ARE CHANGED!**

BE SMART and SAFE . . . MAKE SURE THAT YOU:

- 1) HAVE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS IN YOUR HOME.**
- 2) HAVE THE ALARMS PROPERLY POSITIONED TO PROTECT ALL SLEEPING AREAS.**
- 3) PERFORM MONTHLY FUNCTIONAL TESTS OF ALL SMOKE ALARMS.**
- 4) REPLACE NON-FUNCTIONING SMOKE ALARMS IMMEDIATELY.**
- 5) PRE-PLAN YOUR ESCAPE and REGULARLY PRACTICE HOME FIRE EVACUATION DRILLS.**

REMEMBER . . . THE LIFE THAT YOU SAVE MAY VERY WELL BE YOUR OWN!

