



MISSISSIPPI STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MIKE CHANEY
State Fire Marshal

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Donna Cromeans

601-359-3569

Donna.Cromeans@mid.ms.gov

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State Fire Marshal's Office Provides Over 300 Smoke Alarms in Partnership with Vision 20/20

Jackson, MS – In a continuing effort to help lower fire deaths, the Mississippi State Fire Marshal's office, in partnership with the Vision 20/20 project, will be distributing over 300 smoke alarms to fire departments in Oktibbeha County and the cities of Brandon and Starkville.

Today at 11:00 am at Brandon City Hall, State Fire Coordinator Brad Smith and Deputy Supervisor of the Fire Code for the State Fire Marshal's Office B.J. Malley will present 102 smoke alarms to Brandon Mayor Butch Lee, Brandon Fire Chief Terry Wages, Deputy Fire Chief Richard Fortune, Alderman Harry Williams, Alderwoman Tahya Dobbs, Division Chief of Public Fire Safety Education Ben Warren, and City of Brandon Economic Development Director Kyle Brown with 102 smoke alarms.

Deputies from the Mississippi State Fire Marshal's Office will also be delivering 204 smoke alarms to fire services in Oktibbeha County and the city of Starkville.

The smoke alarms will be distributed for installation in at risk homes in those areas.

The project is also part of a State Fire Marshal's Office program to assist the county fire service in developing a community risk reduction plan to reduce fire deaths in Alcorn County. The State Fire Marshal's Office has assisted in investigating fires that have resulted in 16 fire deaths so far in 2017, of those 10 did not have a working smoke alarm.

"As I have repeated over and over, having working smoke alarms can cut your risk of dying in a fire by half," said Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney.

"The State Fire Marshal's Office strives to provide fire safety education to consumers and fights to reduce fire deaths in the state. We welcome this partnership with Vision 20/20 and thank them for providing these vital devices."

Vision 20/20 is a national project that is dedicated to providing national strategies in fire prevention across the country.

For more information on fire safety education in Mississippi, visit the State Fire Marshal pages of the Mississippi Insurance Department website at www.mid.ms.gov . You can also follow us on Twitter - @msfiresafe and on Facebook.