



MISSISSIPPI STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MIKE CHANEY
State Fire Marshal

PRESS RELEASE

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Summit aims to solve Mississippi fire problem

JACKSON – In 2017, Mississippi saw **57** unintentional residential structure fire deaths. Already in 2018, there have been **42** such fire deaths investigated by the State Fire Marshal's Office. There were no smoke alarms in the home in **19** of those cases.

On Wednesday, July 18, firefighters, fire chiefs, elected officials and others will tackle Mississippi's fire problem during the **Fire Is Everyone's Fight™: MS Community Risk Reduction Summit!**

The summit will also debut Mississippi's newest arson dog team: Gregory Marks and K9 Toggle, from the Gulfport Fire Department. **The duo will demonstrate their training during lunch from 12-12:45 PM.** Members of the press are invited to attend that demonstration with interviews to follow.

The summit is a partnership between the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Mississippi Fire Chief's Association, State Farm, the National Fire Protection Association and Vision 20/20. The meeting will provide an overview of the state-wide fire problem. Resources will be provided and classes will cover smoke alarms, sprinkler systems and more.

State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney said, "Any fire death is a death too many, people need to take extra fire safety precautions when it comes to protecting their homes and family. I believe this training will help accomplish our goal of reducing fire deaths in Mississippi."

Who: Anyone who takes part in fire prevention can attend. **Members of the press are also invited.**

When: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 18, 2018 (lunch is provided)

Where: MS State Fire Academy auditorium, 1 Fire Academy Road, Pearl, Miss.

How: Pre-register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSSummit2018>

For fire safety tips visit the State Fire Marshal page of the Mississippi Insurance Department website at: www.mid.ms.gov or get tips on Twitter from @msfiresafe and @MSInsuranceDept.

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