



# MISSISSIPPI

## STATE FIRE MARSHALL

**MIKE CHANEY**  
State Fire Marshal

### PRESS RELEASE

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## **Let turning clocks back be a reminder to protect your home and family**

**Jackson, MS** – The end of Daylight Saving Time on Sunday is fast approaching. State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney says, when you turn your clocks back this weekend, take an extra minute or two to change the battery in your smoke alarm or test to make sure it's still working.

Of the 66 fire deaths investigated by the State Fire Marshal's Office so far in 2018, more than 60% of them either had no smoke alarm or a non-working smoke alarm present.

Working smoke alarms save lives and Commissioner Chaney says not having a working alarm is simply unacceptable.

“If you do not have a smoke alarm in your home, get one! If you have one, make sure it is in working order. A working smoke alarm cuts your risk of dying in a fire in half,” said Chaney.

The Mississippi State Fire Marshal's Office recommends the following smoke alarm safety tips:

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.
- Make sure everyone in the home understands the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to respond.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
- Replace the smoke alarm immediately if it doesn't respond properly when tested.
- Smoke alarms with non-replaceable (long-life) batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, a warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.
- For smoke alarms with any other type of battery, replace batteries at least once a year. If the alarm chirps, replace only the battery.

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