

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATE FIRE MARSHAL MIKE CHANEY WARNS AGAINST USING PROPANE CABINET OR CONSTRUCTION HEATERS IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

JACKSON, Miss. - The Mississippi State Fire Marshal's Office has become aware that some people may be using propane cabinet heaters (a/k/a construction heaters) indoors to heat their residence. For safety reasons, these heaters **cannot** be used in residential buildings.



This is an example of a propane cabinet heater.

Cabinet or construction heaters may operate using commonly owned five (5) gallon/twenty (20) pound propane gas cylinders as its fuel source. The gas cylinders are commonly used in outdoor barbeque grills. State law prohibits the storage of twenty (20) pound cylinders in residential buildings, meaning that use indoors is also prohibited.

Some cabinet heater owner's manuals clearly note that such heaters are **not** for home use and to **not** use them in a tightly enclosed area. These manuals go on to add that such heaters are designed for use as construction heaters and are intended to be used as temporary heating of buildings or structures under construction, repair and alteration.

Consumers should always read owner's manuals and operating instructions, and related product packaging or materials before operating anything that uses propane as a fuel source.

These heaters produce or may produce carbon monoxide. If carbon monoxide builds up and is not adequately ventilated, poisoning or death may result. Even the improper storage of propane cylinders has previously led to injury, death, and property damage caused by cylinder leaks.

If you have a question about properly using a heater or storing propane, please call the Mississippi State Fire Marshal's Office at 601-359-1061.

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