



# City of Winston-Salem

## Proclamation

### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- WHEREAS:** The City of Winston-Salem is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; and
- WHEREAS:** Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally; and homes are the locations where people are at the greatest risk from fire; and
- WHEREAS:** Home fires caused more than 2,700 deaths in the United States in 2022, according to the National Fire Protection Association ® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 360,000 home fires; and
- WHEREAS:** Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with either no smoke alarms or with no working smoke alarms. Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires almost in half. Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger in the event of fire in which you may have as little as two minutes to escape safely; and
- WHEREAS:** City of Winston-Salem residents should install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Residents will make sure their smoke alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and
- WHEREAS:** City of Winston-Salem residents should test smoke alarms at least once a month. Residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and
- WHEREAS:** City of Winston-Salem first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and
- WHEREAS:** City of Winston-Salem residents are responsive to public education measures and can take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and
- WHEREAS:** The 2024 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, “Smoke alarms: Make them work for you.™,” serves to remind us of the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLEN JOINES**, Mayor of the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2024 as

## FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

and I urge all residents of the City of Winston-Salem to make sure their homes have working smoke alarms and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Winston-Salem’s fire and emergency services

Given under my hand and seal this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024.

J. ALLEN JOINES

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Mayor