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**For Immediate Release Contact**

[Date] [Local Spokesperson]

[Phone #]

**[City] Fire Fighters Promote Home Fire Drill Day**

**[City, State]** – Only 1 in 5 parents regularly practice fire escape plans at home, and only half of parents report that their children know what to do in the event of a fire. Yet, home fires are the biggest disaster threat facing American families today, with 9 in 10 structure fires occurring in the home and more than 8 in 10 fire-related deaths resulting from home fires.

To raise awareness of this issue and encourage families to be more prepared when it comes to fire safety, [City/Local] fire fighters have partnered with Nationwide’s [Make Safe Happen](http://makesafehappen.com/) program to promote a new national observance day – Home Fire Drill Day – on the last Saturday (October 13) of the National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) [Fire Prevention Week](http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week) (October 7-13, 2018).

This is the first time that like-minded parties from the public and private sector are collaborating on this single, life-saving call to action. Home Fire Drill Day tips include:

* Prepare for the practice by drawing out a plan based on the exits around the home.
* Pick a family safety spot that’s near your home and a safe distance away.
* Test your smoke alarms with your kids so they know what the beep sounds like.
* For children under six, assign an adult to help them.
* Use a timer to ensure everyone is at the safety spot in two minutes or less, this is how much time a family has to safely exit the house in the event of a fire.

“When a fire happens at home, children can become frightened and hide,” says [name], a fire fighter with the [city name] [Local #]. “It is our hope that by practicing for these emergencies, by educating our children, we can save lives and even have a little fun while doing it.”

Your [city name] fire fighters encourage everyone in the community to participate in Home Fire Drill Day on October 13 and to make practicing a home fire drill a twice-yearly tradition.

For more information, contact the [local name and #] at [contact info].

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