Memorandum

CITY OF DALLAS

Date: October 19, 2012

To: Members of the Public Safety Committee

Subject: Inspection and Life Safety Education Division

The Public Safety Committee will be briefed on Inspection and Life Safety Education Division on Monday, October 22, 2012.

A.C. Gonzalez
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Rosa Rios, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Daniel Solis, Administrative Judge
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Librio, Public Information Office
Stephanie Cooper, Assistant to the City Manager

Inspection and Life Safety Education Division

Key Focus Area
Public Safety

October 22, 2012

Purpose

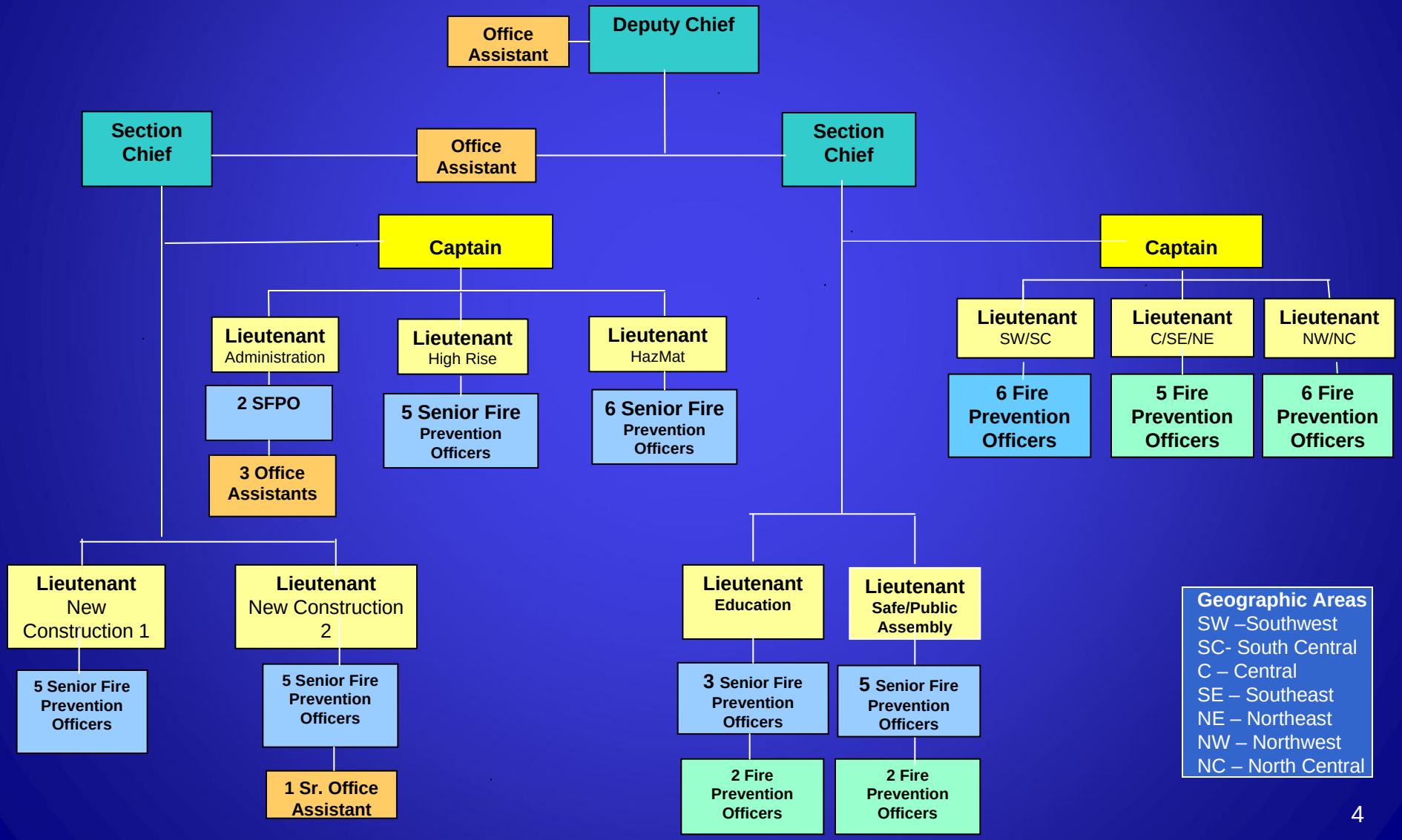
To provide an overview of:

- Organization
- Resources
- Inspection activities
- Educational activities
- Accomplishments

Goals

- Prevent fire and life safety hazards
- Educate citizens
- Insure fire safe construction
- Promote public safety
- Foster community relations

Inspection & Life Safety Education Division



Geographic Areas
SW –Southwest
SC- South Central
C – Central
SE – Southeast
NE – Northeast
NW – Northwest
NC – North Central

Field Inspections

Field inspections include:

- Inspect life safety systems
- Inspect for fire code violations
- Investigate citizen complaints
- Maintain fire lane compliance
- Check for certificate of occupancy
- Issue fire permits when applicable

Field Inspections Include:

- General business
- State licensed facilities
  - -Daycares
  - -Assisted living facilities
- Hotels and motels

Field Inspections

- Schools
  - -Public
  - -Private
- Public Assemblies
  - -Night clubs
  - -Bars
  - -Restaurants
  - -Theaters
- Multi-family dwellings

Multi-family Dwellings

- Check fire lanes and gates
- Check fire department access
- Permits issued for use of limited access gates

- Test smoke alarms
- Investigate complaints
- Approval of chemical storage
- Issue permits for hot work

Task Forces

Certain facilities are inspected in alternating years

- Hazardous materials locations
- High rise

Haz-Mat and Airports

- Inspect hazardous materials facilities
- Inspect aboveground/underground flammable liquid storage tanks
- Inspect spray paint booths
- Issue hazardous materials permits

High Rise Buildings

- 498 High rise buildings
- Review fire safety plans and conduct fire drills
- Inspect and test life safety systems

New Construction

- Testing Life Safety Systems:
  - -Automatic sprinkler
  - -Fire alarm
  - -Elevators

- Check for fire department access
- Testing of electronic egress devices
- Testing of emergency generators

Tradeshows, Conventions, and Special Events

- Check emergency exits
- Check for overcrowding
- Inspect life safety systems
- Monitor pyrotechnic and LPG displays

Boarding Homes

- Currently have 354
- Inspections conducted by a Senior Fire Prevention Officer

Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Assisted Living

- 51 nursing homes and 56 hospitals inspected yearly

- Investigate complaints
- Check life safety systems
- Issue appropriate permits

Inspection & Life Safety Education Statistics

2010-2011		2011-2012	
Inspections:	80,105	Inspections:	82,628
Reinspections:	14,118	Reinspections:	18,979
Permits Issued:	4,078	Permits Issued:	4,306
Revenue Generated:	$555,983	Revenue Generated:	$588,173
Hazards Found:	47,717	Hazards Found:	46,797
Hazards Corrected:	44,796	Hazards Corrected:	41,473

Public Education

Community Involvement

Dallas Fire-Rescue is involved in community activities throughout the year:

- Senior education programs - 450+ educated
- Fire and life safety booths at community events - 23,000+ educated

Community Involvement

- DISD and private school events - 9,000+ educated

- CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and fire extinguisher 120+ educated

Fire Prevention Month 2012

- National Fire Protection Association named “Have 2 Ways Out!” as the theme for this year’s Fire Prevention Week

- October 7th – 13th is officially Fire Prevention Week but, we consider October to be Fire Prevention Month and participates in many educational programs

National Night Out- October 2nd

Bringing engines, trucks and educational materials, DFR attended various community gatherings

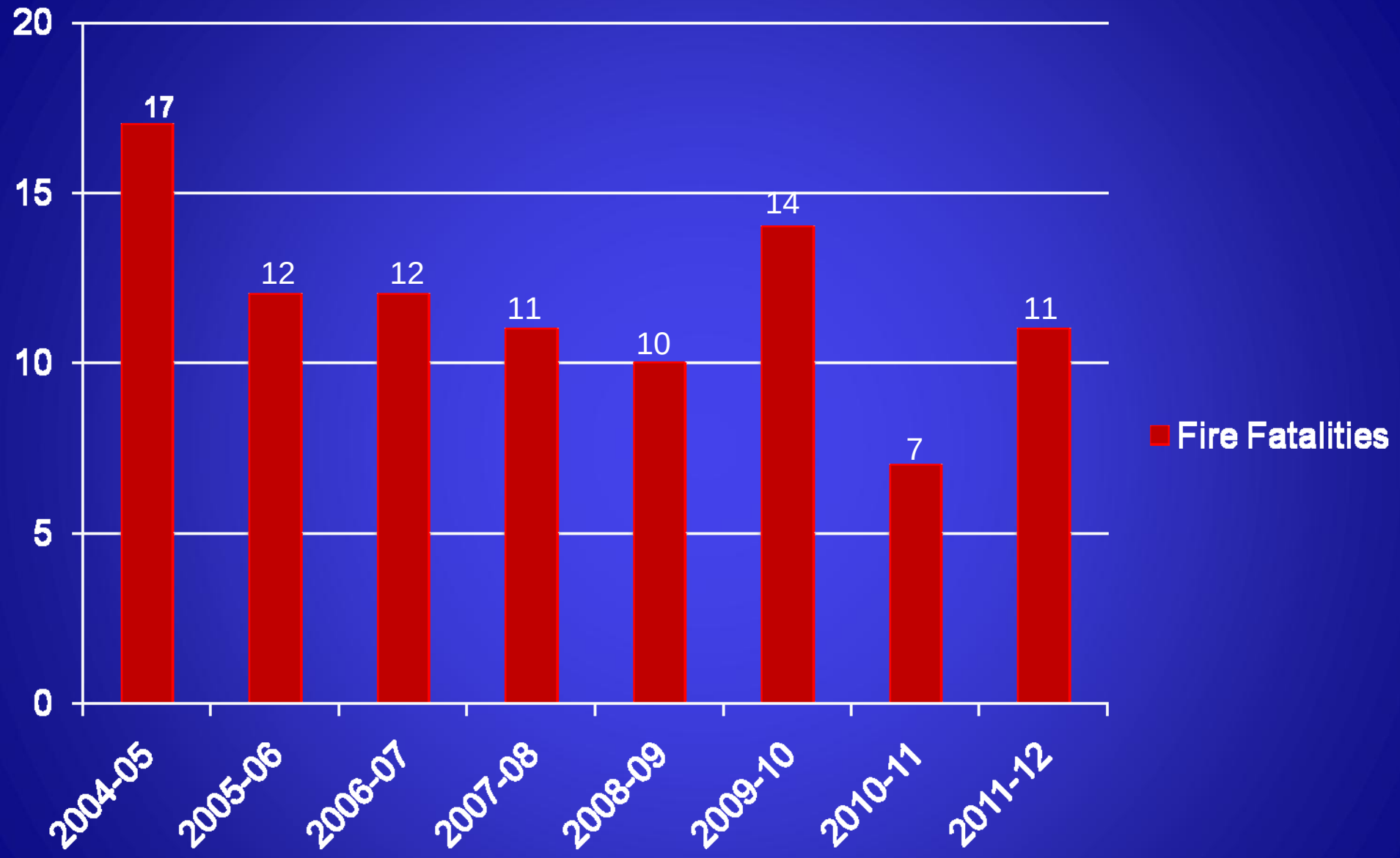
At 6:00 pm, encouraged citizens to participate in a city wide home fire safety drill.

Citizens designed an escape plan and practiced with their families before joining their neighbors

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2012

POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Fire Fatalities



Top Causes of Fires in Dallas

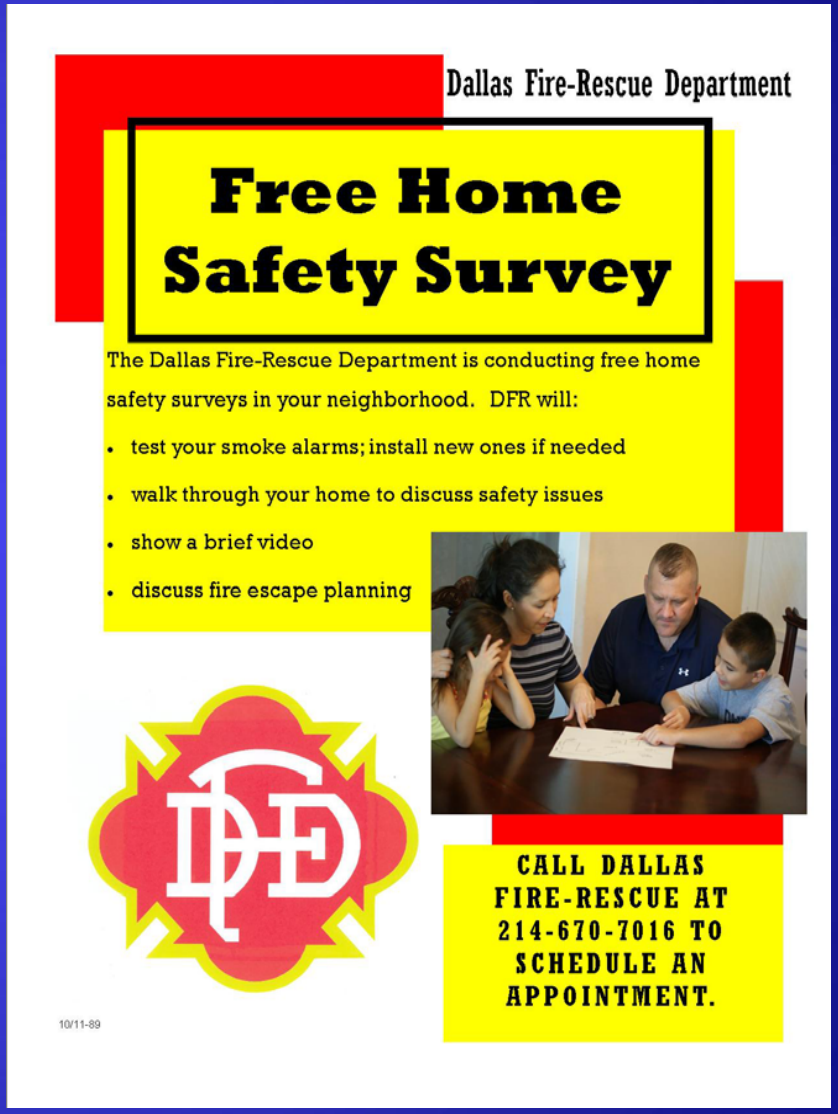
- Electrical
- Unattended cooking
- Combustibles too close to heat source

Smoke Alarm Installations

- Free to single family dwellings in the City of Dallas
- Smoke alarms-tamper proof 10 year lithium batteries
- A 50% greater chance of surviving a residential with a working smoke alarm
- Call 3-1-1 to request smoke alarms

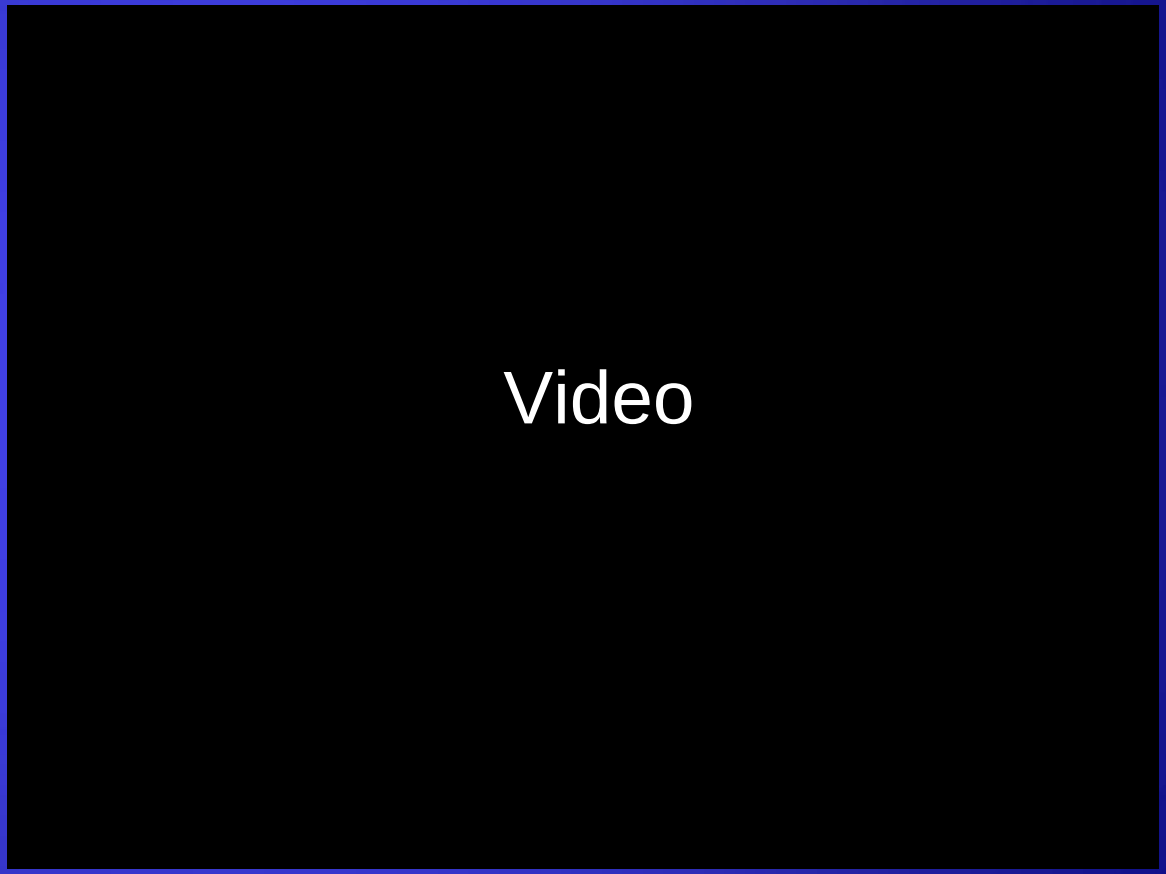
Home Fire Safety Survey Program

- Citizens
  - home safety survey provided where smoke alarms are repaired or replaced and all hazards addressed
  - educational material left upon completion of survey
- Flyers - distributed to high activity areas in the city



Home Fire Safety

- An in house produced DVD in English and Spanish available to citizens.
- A senior safety DVD was created in English and Spanish to address special needs of the senior community.



Smoke Signals

- A quarterly fire and life safety newsletter in English and Spanish.
- Smoke Signals is updated to address the changing hazards of the seasons and concerns of the community.

Smoke Signals
A Life Safety Newsletter

Special Edition: 4th of July
Summer 2012

City of Dallas

Outdoor Cooking Safety

4th of July Life and Fire Safety: Be Safe!

Outdoor Cooking Safety:

Keep outdoor cooking safe!

- Always keep grills a safe distance from houses and overhangs.
- Grills on apartment unsprinklered balconies are not allowed unless they are 10 ft. from any combustibles including roofs and overhangs.
- Never apply fire starter to a smoldering fire. Add dry kindling instead and blow across the coals.
- Never leave outdoor cooking unattended and let coals cool before disposing of them in a metal container.
- Keep kids away from a grill or fire pit.

Does your home have a working smoke alarm?

If your home does not have a working smoke alarm, please call 3-1-1. Dallas Fire-Rescue will be glad to install a free smoke alarm for you!

After confiscating 295 pounds of fireworks in 2011, Dallas Fire-Rescue will again monitor the area parks and lakes for illegal use of fireworks. Fireworks will be confiscated throughout the city. Anyone caught with fireworks may be issued a citation, with fines up to $2,000.

Remember that fireworks are illegal in the city of Dallas and up to 5,000 ft. outside of the Dallas city limits. Residents of Dallas are encouraged to attend professional fire works displays throughout the city. A few safety rules to consider while attending these functions are:

- Stay at least 500 feet from the professional fireworks displays.
- If you find fireworks, do not touch them but instead direct authorities to them.
- Leave any area where amateurs are using fireworks.
- Report illegal fireworks use by calling 9-1-1.

Remember: Fireworks are illegal in Dallas. Fines can reach up to $2000. Leave fireworks to the professionals!

But Aren't Sparklers Safe?

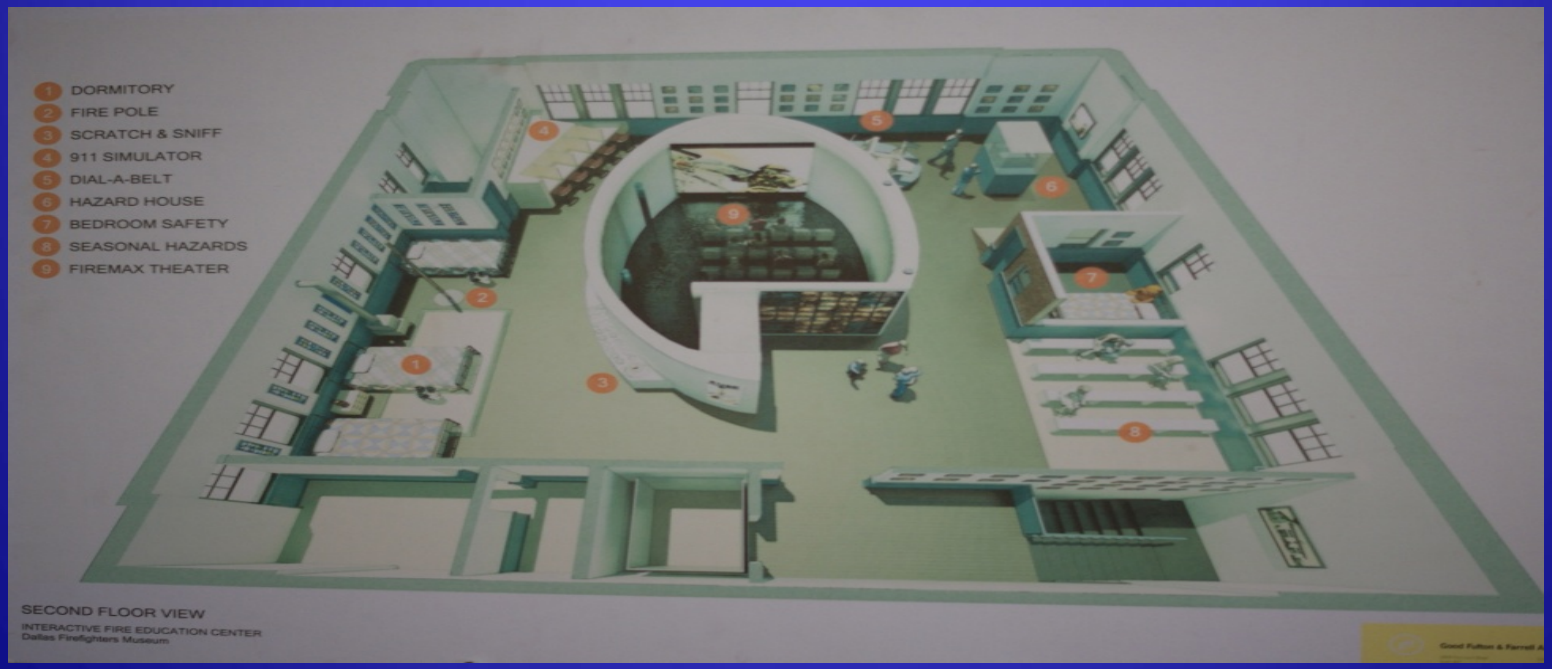
Sparklers are often thought of as a lesser firework but they still pose a danger, especially during high fire danger conditions we are currently experiencing. Also keep in mind that a Sparkler burns up to 1200° F which is hot enough to cause a third degree burn.

HOW HOT DOES A SPARKLER BURN?

1200 °F — Sparklers
1100 °F
1000 °F
900 °F — Glass melts at 900 °F
800 °F
700 °F
600 °F — Wood burns at 575 °F
500 °F
400 °F
300 °F — Cakes bake at 350 °F
200 °F — Water boils at 212 °F
100 °F
0 °F

Dallas Firefighters Museum

- Dallas Firefighters Museum continues raising funds to provide an interactive educational facility located in our current Firefighters Museum.



FY 11-12 Accomplishments

- Focus on High Risk areas
  - Haz Mat - inspected every other year
  - High Rise - inspected every other year
  - Assembly Occupancies – goal to inspect every year
- Customer Satisfaction – 100%
- Installed over 4,800 smoke alarms
- Participated in National Night Out
- Confiscated 181 pounds of illegal fireworks
- Created the Home Fire Safety Survey

FY 11-12 Accomplishments

- Began collection of fees for inspecting high risk buildings

  - High Risk locations include public assemblies, high rise office and health care facilities

  - Owners - charged $40 to $500 depending on square footage/other factors

Questions?