

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Ocala 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 greatest risk from fire. Home fires caused 2,580 civilian deaths in the United States in 2020, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 356,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, 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 2 minutes to escape safely. Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, Ocala residents should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the smoke alarms and knows how to respond; and those 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, Ocala residents will make sure their smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Ocala first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Fire Prevention WeekTM theme, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.TM," effectively serves to remind Ocala it is important to have a home fire escape plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2022, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

I urge all the people of Ocala to plan and practice a home fire escape for Fire Prevention Week 2022 and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Ocala fire and emergency services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 3^{rd} day of October 2022.

Kent Guinn, Mayor City of Ocala