

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: National Service

Series/Staff Member: Rick Allen

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 2149

FolderID:

Folder Title:

National Smoke Detection Project

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

2

Shelf:

2

Position:

2



THE NATIONAL SMOKE DETECTOR PROJECT

April 5, 1993

Honorable Eli Segal
Director, Office of National Services
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Segal:

As the Office of National Services accepts new challenges, we ask that you give priority to the recognition of public fire safety education.

Residential fires kill thousands each year and injure thousands more. Tragically, very young children and elderly residents, especially those in low-income and minority households, are the most vulnerable. The loss is all the more tragic because we know fires are preventable.

In March 1991, a nationwide network of organizations and individuals joined the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Congressional Fire Services Institute, the U.S. Fire Administration, and the National Fire Protection Association in a major public-private partnership to promote the use and maintenance of smoke detectors in homes and to continue to improve their lifesaving effectiveness. Our effort is called the *National Smoke Detector Project*. A copy of some background material regarding this national project is enclosed.

The National Smoke Detector Project's Consumer Awareness Committee supports a continuing effort by individual local fire departments and other groups all over the country to reduce fire deaths and injuries resulting from fires by promoting awareness of fire-safe behaviors. This important work is often handicapped by the lack of personnel and other resources.

We believe that making public fire safety education one of the main goals of national service could help reduce the needless loss throughout the Nation of lives and property to fire. We would be pleased to meet with you to discuss how we can work with you to address this issue.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Perroni, Chairperson
Consumer Awareness Committee
National Smoke Detector Project
203-1 Skyhill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314

Enclosures

SPONSORS

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
U.S. Fire Administration
National Fire Protection Association
Congressional Fire Services Institute

(703) 823-1593

This correspondence represents the views of active participants in the National Smoke Detector Project and does not necessarily represent the views of the sponsors or the Steering Committee.

Susan
Is this "public safety" + is it part of nat'l service? No need to meet but if rather call/make sense, go right ahead.
CJ



THE NATIONAL SMOKE DETECTOR PROJECT

NATIONAL SMOKE DETECTOR PROJECT

There is a killer that stalks American homes. It takes the lives of more than 4,000 people each year and injures thousands more. Sadly, very young children and the elderly, especially those in low-income and minority households, are the most vulnerable.

The killer is FIRE, and its toll is all the more distressing because we know that fires can be prevented. We've all heard the stories:

- "A woman and a child died in a fire in a second story apartment. The apartment had a smoke detector, but it didn't work."
- "A four-year-old girl and her 70-year-old grandfather died in a house fire. The house had two smoke detectors; both had dead batteries."
- "A six-month-old girl died in a fire. The smoke detector in the house didn't work."

Stories like these are repeated thousands of times in our own state and across the country every year.

SPONSORS

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
U.S. Fire Administration
National Fire Protection Association
Congressional Fire Services Institute

This correspondence represents the views of active participants in the National Smoke Detector Project and does not necessarily represent the views of the sponsors or the Steering Committee.

The needless pain and suffering caused by fire is a national tragedy and it must be stopped.

The power to make a difference rests individually with each of us.

One of the most effective weapons in the fight to save lives and reduce injuries from fire is the **smoke detector**. Fire can strike anytime, but most fatal fires occur at night while people sleep.

Having a smoke detector in your home cuts your chances of dying in a fire by 50 percent. It provides early warning, so you can escape before the smoke and toxic gases produced in a fire become deadly.

Most American homes have at least one smoke detector, but the detectors cannot do their job in many of these homes because they do not work. And about 15 percent of our neighbors, mostly in low-income and minority neighborhoods, have no detector at all.

A nationwide network of organizations and individuals has joined the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the United States Fire Administration, the National Fire Protection Association and the Congressional Fire Services Institute in a major campaign to promote the use and maintenance of smoke detectors in homes and to continue to improve their lifesaving effectiveness.

Putting an end to fire-related deaths and injuries takes some effort from each and every one of us. Here's what you can do:

- **Install at least one smoke detector on each level of your home, especially in or near the bedrooms.** Smoke detectors aren't very expensive, and you can find them at most hardware and department stores.
- **Check your detector each month to be sure it's working.** With many detectors, all you need to do is press the test button.
- **Clean your detectors periodically according to the manufacturer's directions.**
- **Change the batteries at least once a year.** Many detectors make a chirping sound to let you know it's time to replace the battery.
- **Together with your family, plan how you would escape from your house if there were a fire and practice the plan regularly.** Everyone should know at least two ways out of each room. Decide on a place outside where you can meet to be sure everyone has escaped safely.

If you have questions about smoke detectors or need help installing yours, contact your local fire department.

Support the work of the "National Smoke Detector Project." Take these simple steps toward a safer tomorrow.

The payoff -- the lives of our families -- is worth it.