



HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 19, 2009

CONTACT: HFD Public Affairs, 713-495-7900

Mass Smoke Detector Installation, This Saturday

WHAT: Houston Firefighters, members of the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), HFD Citizens Fire Academy Alumni and representatives from Whataburger Restaurants will help install smoke detectors in the homes of our Houston neighbors in need.

WHEN : Saturday, February 21, 2009, starting at 8 a.m.

WHERE: Volunteers will meet at Fire Station 27, 6515 Lyons and then canvass the surrounding neighborhood

**Media - orange flags marked "Houston Fire" will be posted near houses where volunteers are canvassing.*

DETAILS: Non-working smoke detectors rob residents of the protective benefits home fire safety devices were designed to provide. The most commonly cited cause of nonworking smoke detectors is worn or missing batteries.

“Working smoke detectors provide an early warning and critical extra seconds to escape,” said Captain Homero Ponce-Lopez, HFD Public Affairs. “This is particularly important for those most at risk of dying in a home fire, such as children and seniors.”

Volunteers will also be passing out safety literature and reminding residents how important it is to have an escape plan and if their home does catch fire, to get out and stay out.

Citizens who cannot afford or otherwise install a working smoke alarm in their homes (renters - landlords should install a smoke alarm) may visit their local Houston Fire Station for a smoke alarm, call the HFD Public Affairs Office at 713-495-7900.



Working Smoke Detectors Save Lives!

