



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

ERIC L. PETERSON  
FIRE CHIEF

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- National Fire Prevention Week 2016 -

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. October 3, 2016 – October 9th-15th has been declared “National Fire Prevention Week”, a time to reflect on our nation’s past fire history, remembering the “Great Chicago Fire of 1871” and how out of that tragedy, a national interest in fire prevention and safety emerged.

The 2016 National Fire Prevention Week theme is *“Don’t Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years,”* represents the final year of our three-year effort to educate the public about basic but essential elements of smoke alarm safety.

- *Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.*
- *Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home.*
- *To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.*

Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half!

**When it comes to smoke alarms, it’s about “location, location, location”.**

Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department encourages everyone to participate in fire prevention activities at home, work, school and all locations, making this Fire Prevention Week the beginning of a year-long effort to improve fire safety.

**Contact Information:**

Captain Dave Zaniboni

Information Officer

Office 805- 681-5531

Cell 805-896-6336

News Line 805-681-5546

Email david.zaniboni@sbcfire.com

Twitter @SBCFireInfo

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