



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Time to Change the Batteries in Your Smoke Alarms

Irvine, CA – Smoke alarms save lives! When your clock “falls back” one hour this Sunday, November 5 at 2:00am, change the batteries in all of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Change the batteries in every smoke and carbon monoxide alarm. Once the new batteries have been installed, press and hold the test button. Within a few seconds, you should hear a loud beep. Check the date on the back of the smoke alarm, if the unit is more than 10 years old, replace the entire unit. Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Nationally, approximately 75% of failed smoke alarms are due to missing batteries.

We are asking the community to join the OCFA in efforts to reduce risks, by remembering “Install, Inspect, Protect.”

Install:

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, inside each sleeping area, and in every hallway leading to sleeping areas.
- Replace the entire unit every 10 years, check the back of the smoke alarm for the date.

Inspect:

- Test hard-wired and battery operated smoke alarms every month.
- Change the batteries twice a year, when changing your clocks for both battery-operated and hard-wired smoke alarms.
- Clean your smoke alarms every year.

Protect:

- Plan a home escape plan and ensure that everyone in the household knows the sound the alarm makes and what to do if they hear it.
- Identify two ways out of each room and designate a meeting place outside the home to account for family members in the event of an emergency.
- Practice your home fire drills every six months and remember to crawl low under the smoke & go.
- Call 911 immediately and ensure that everyone knows your Home Escape Plan.

Smoke alarms save lives! You could be saving the lives of yourself and others.

For other important safety information, visit our website www.ocfa.org or call (714) 573-6200

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The OCFA is a joint powers authority that serves more than 1.8 million residents in 23 cities and the unincorporated areas of the county.

Communications and Public Affairs
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