



NEWS RELEASE

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Hudgens: When You Change Your Clocks, Check Your Smoke Alarm

Atlanta – Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens urges Georgians to check their smoke alarms when they change their clocks on Sunday.

The 2015 National Fire Prevention Theme is, ‘Hear the Beep Where you Sleep!’ Changing the battery and cleaning dust from the device each time you change your clocks is an easy way to ensure continued protection of your family and property. A working smoke alarm doubles the chance of survival of a fire in your home. If your alarm is over 10 years old, replace it with a new device.

Residential fires have claimed the lives of 85 Georgians to date in 2015. Fire investigators have been unable to determine if a working smoke alarm was present in 62 of those fires. Last year in Georgia, there were 115 fatal fires, 43 of which were residential fires with no working smoke alarms.

“It only takes a few minutes to make sure your smoke alarm functions appropriately, but it could save your life,” Hudgens said. “When you turn your clocks back an hour, also check your smoke alarm.”

Daylight savings time ends Sunday, November 1, at 2 a.m. when clocks are set back one hour.

If you have any questions, please call the Georgia Department of Insurance at (404)656-2070 or toll free at (800) 656- 2298.