



Miami-Dade Fire Rescue urges Miami-Dade County residents to "Prevent Home Fires"

(Miami-Dade County, FL) -- A pot holder too close to a lit burner or a space heater left on overnight could be all it takes to start a home fire. In fact, cooking and heating are among the leading causes of home fires in the United States, according to the nonprofit [National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\)](#).

That's why [Miami-Dade Fire Rescue \(MDFR\)](#) is teaming up with NFPA from October 5 through 11 to urge Miami-Dade County residents to "Prevent Home Fires" during Fire Prevention Week. This year's campaign focuses on preventing all the leading causes of home fires – cooking, heating and electrical equipment, and smoking materials. Additionally, fire safety educators will be teaching local residents how to plan and practice escape from a home in case a fire occurs.

According to the latest research from NFPA, more than 2,500 people died in home fires in the United States in 2006, and 12,500 were injured.

"While the number of [home fires](#) is daunting, the good news is that many are easily preventable when residents take simple steps to protect themselves from fire. In the last two weeks, MDFR has responded to three fires that all resulted in fatalities. In some cases, they may have been prevented," said Fire Chief Herminio Lorenzo. "Prevention is key in protecting your most priceless possessions, your loved ones."

Do you know how to keep your home safe from fire hazards? Reviewing the following information and taking action can help you "Prevent Home Fires" during Fire Prevention Week and year-round.

Cooking: Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period time, turn off the stove.

Heating: Keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding or furniture, at least 3 feet away from heating equipment.

Electrical: Replace cracked and damaged electrical cords; use extension cords for temporary wiring only. Consider having additional circuits or receptacles added by a qualified electrician.

Smoking: If you smoke, smoke outside; wherever you smoke, use deep, sturdy ashtrays.

Fire Prevention Week is actively supported by fire departments across the country. For 85 years, fire departments have observed Fire Prevention Week, making it the longest running public health and safety observance on record.

[J.P.](#) would like to remind everyone to think Safety 1st.

There are numerous challenges facing policy holders attempting to have their insurance claims timely honored by insurance companies: The delays in investigation of claims, the endless request for documents, requests for sworn statements or examinations under oath, requests for recorded statements, issues related to actual cash value determinations, issues related to replacement cash value determinations, recovery of additional living expenses issues, costs of debris removal issues, contents or personal property claims issues, law and ordinance issues, damages to dwelling or structure related issues, fraud and arson accusations, application issues, material misrepresentation issues, total loss or constructive total loss issues, appraisal or appraiser issues, umpire issues, recovery for theft or vandalism damage, mold issues, supplemental claim issues, business interruption loss and other issues, including [litigation](#).



[J.P. Gonzalez-Sirgo, P.A.](#) helps insurance policy holders recover what they are due on their insurance claims. For a free consultation, please contact our office in Miami-Dade County at 305-461-1095 or toll free at 1-866-71-CLAIM or fill out the short online [contact form](#) and a member of our office will contact you immediately or visit us in [Espanol](#).

