

**In Recognition of  
Fire Prevention Week  
October 6-12, 2013**

- WHEREAS,** the City of Fort Lauderdale is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; and
- WHEREAS,** fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and
- WHEREAS,** home fires killed more than 2,500 people in the United States in 2011, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to more than 370,000 home fires; and
- WHEREAS,** cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 156,000 annually between 2007 and 2011; and
- WHEREAS,** two of every five home fires start in the kitchen; and
- WHEREAS,** unattended equipment was a factor in one-third of the reported cooking fires; and
- WHEREAS,** 57% of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and
- WHEREAS,** children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and
- WHEREAS,** Fort Lauderdale's residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; and
- WHEREAS,** residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and
- WHEREAS,** working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and
- WHEREAS,** Fort Lauderdale's Fire Inspectors are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and
- WHEREAS,** Fort Lauderdale's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2013 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Prevent Kitchen Fires!" effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE,** as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **October 6-12, 2013** as:

**Fire Prevention Week**

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and urge all our neighbors to check their kitchens for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices during Fire Prevention Week 2013, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department.

**DATED this,** the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2013

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**John P. "Jack" Seiler  
Mayor**

