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**During National Fire Prevention Week,
Practicing Home Fire Safety Regularly Can Help Save Lives**

WALDWICK, NJ (October 10, 2007) – Members of The New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board are urging families to take time during National Fire Prevention Week –October 7-13 – to review the dangers of fire with their loved ones and practice their home fire escape plan.

“Every family should have an escape plan from their home in the event of a fire, and practice it throughout the year”, says Vincent Fichera, Executive Director of the New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board. “We believe that if everyone takes a few moments to review fire safety techniques and their escape plan with their loved ones, lives will be saved.”

Below are tips from the New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board on how to prepare your family’s escape in the event of a fire:

- ❖ Every household – no matter how large or small, house or apartment – should have a family escape plan.
- ❖ Make sure you have at least one working fire alarm per floor of your home that can be heard loudly from each room.
- ❖ Take the time now to examine doors and windows to make sure they are accommodating in the event of an emergency. This includes making sure windows are easy to unlock and open, and considering personal fire escape ladders for second-story rooms.
- ❖ If you live in an apartment building, make sure you are aware of all the building’s fire exits, fire escapes and rules in the event of an emergency. Each apartment building should have a set meeting place outside for residents and practice apartment-wide fire drills at least once a year.
- ❖ Consider purchasing a lock-box or fire-proof safe for your home, and keep important papers and resources in an easy-to-access place in the event of a quick escape.
- ❖ Consider researching and investing in a residential fire sprinkler system to protect your family and property. Fire sprinklers respond to a fire immediately and allow optimum time for your family to escape to safety unharmed.
- ❖ **Practice, Practice, Practice!**

The New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board (NJFSAB) is a cooperative partnership advocating installation and proper care of fire sprinkler systems as a highly effective means of helping save lives and property. Working alongside fire and government authorities in the state of NJ, the Advisory Board supports educational programs and legislative measures to increase consideration, promote proper usage and enhance/enforce building codes for fire sprinklers in new and renovated properties. Headquartered in Waldwick, NJ, the Board is comprised of local leaders, contractors, businesses and unionized personnel representing fire sprinkler construction, production, distribution and installation industries.

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