

City of Gainesville, Florida  
Office of Mayor Lauren Poe  
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville 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 caused 2,580 civilian deaths in the United States in 2020, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 356,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to fire danger when you may have as little as two minutes to escape safely; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville residents should be sure everyone in the home recognizes the sound or alert created by smoke alarms and knows how to respond; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville 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, Gainesville residents will make sure their smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville residents that are responsive to public education measures are better able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™," effectively serves to remind Gainesville residents it is important to have a home fire escape plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2022 as

*Fire Prevention Week*

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our neighbors to join me in participating in the City's fire prevention activities and efforts sponsored by Gainesville Fire Rescue.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, A.D., 2022.



Lauren Poe  
Mayor