
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

December 13, 2012

Alderman Willie L. Hines, Jr.
(414) 286-2659

President Hines to stress importance of new smoke alarm ordinance

Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. will join Mayor Tom Barrett and Fire Chief Mark Rohlfing to highlight the importance of the city's new smoke alarm ordinance **TODAY** -- Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.

Officials from Safe Kids Wisconsin and Kidde Fire Systems will help the city leaders point out the benefits of smoke detectors that have 10-year, non-removable batteries. Under the new ordinance, that type of alarm will be required in all homes that utilize battery-operated smoke detectors. A constituent of Alderman Hines's 15th District, Ms. Bennie Cross-Gill, will open her home (at 2824 N. 24th Pl.) to the media for the demonstration, and Kidde is donating 200 of its alarms to the fire department.

"The 15th Aldermanic District has the highest number of fire calls in the city," explained Alderman Hines. "This is a simple, yet life-saving initiative that can have a tremendous impact on how citizens respond to fires and give them the best possible opportunity to escape without injury. Milwaukee has a history of leading on public safety issues, and this is just the latest example of us using technology to create a safer city."

The new smoke detector ordinance takes effect on June 1, 2013, and includes a five-year grace period for homeowners to comply. City leaders are emphasizing the new law now to build awareness ahead of June 1, and because home fires and fire deaths are more prevalent in the winter months.

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