



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UNATTENDED CANDLE RESPONSIBLE FOR GLENDALE HOUSE FIRE

Glendale, Ariz. — This afternoon, firefighters were dispatched to a house fire caused by a candle that was left unattended when the occupant left the residence to pick up her children.

Firefighters encountered a fire burning in the back bedroom of the residence, located at 5000 West Morten Avenue, but were able to extinguish it quickly before it spread to the remainder of the home.

The Glendale Fire Department wants to remind everyone to use extra care when using candles.

FACTS

- In 2010, there were approximately 9,600 U.S. home fires started by candles. Of those 9,600 fires, 90 people died and 820 were injured.
- Candle fires cause \$370 million in direct property damage.
- 36% of home candle fires start in the bedroom
- 55% of candle fires were from a combustible material placed too close to the candle.
- 12% of candle fires started after the user fell asleep.

SAFETY TIPS

- Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from items that can burn such as curtains, clothing and paper.
- Use sturdy candleholders that won't tip over and are large enough to collect dripping wax.
- Place candles in areas where children and pets cannot get near them or tip them.
- Keep candles away from flammable liquids.
- Trim wicks to one-quarter inch.
- Discard candles when wicks are within two inches of the holder.
- Store candles and matches out of a child's reach.
- Do not use a candle during a power outage, use a flashlight.

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