

## TOWN OF APEX NORTH CAROLINA

## Proclamation

## Fire Prevention Week 2024

from the Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and residential homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and,

WHEREAS, Home fires are extremely common, with nearly 360,000 home fires reported each year in the United States, and the Apex Fire Department has responded to 15 structure fires in the past 2 years, including 9 houses and 2 apartments; and,

WHEREAS, Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires by nearly half, and smoke alarms should be installed in every sleeping room in a home, outside each sleeping area, and on every floor in order to protect the home and its occupants; and,

WHEREAS, Residents in Apex should test their smoke alarms once a month, and prepare and practice a fire escape plan in order to be well-equipped and more likely to survive in the case of a fire; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex Fire Department and first responders are dedicated to reducing and mitigating the occurrence and impacts of home fires through prevention and protection education, and by responding swiftly in emergency situations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of October 8th – October 14th, 2024, "Fire Prevention Week" in the Town of Apex, and echo the 2024 theme of "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You", by encouraging residents to test their smoke alarms and prepare in the event of a fire to keep themselves and their families safe.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 8th day of October 2024

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor