



## **For Immediate Release**

**July 30, 2014**

# **State Fire Marshal's Office Adds New Weapons to State Fire Safety Arsenal**

**Jackson** – Since 2009, thanks to the fire safety education efforts of the Mississippi State Fire Marshal's Office fire deaths in Mississippi have dropped 38%. In 2013, the 56 fire deaths reported by December 31, 2013, represented a drop of 6 fire deaths from the previous year. Today, at the Neshoba County Fair, Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney formally unveiled two new weapons in the war on fire deaths in the state.

“With the addition of our Fire Safety House and the availability of CoreControl cooling gloves for firefighters, we can continue dedicating efforts to reducing consumer fire deaths and firefighter injuries and deaths in the state,” Chaney said.

State Fire Marshal Deputies can now teach lifesaving lessons in a realistic setting in its new Fire Safety House. The nearly 20 foot long, transportable trailer shows how to safely escape your home if a fire breaks out.

Children and families will be educated on the importance of E.D.I.T.H. (Exits Drills In The Home) and prepare them to conduct drills at home. Additionally, adults will learn to extinguish simulated kitchen fires that are intense and true to life, yet completely safe. The real home kitchen setting uses overhead heaters, dense smoke, digital flames, and sound effects to recreate the stress of an actual fire emergency.

The Fire Safety House was purchased with funds from a Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Fire Prevention and Safety Grant at a cost of just over \$107,000. Live daily demonstrations in the house have been going on since Friday, July 25, 2014 and will continue through Thursday, July 31, 2014.

Fire departments across the state will also have access to a vital new way to help prevent firefighter injuries and death with the addition of CoreControl cooling gloves. With the assistance of Senator Videt Carmichael and other members of the legislature the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) has been able to purchase 20 of these lifesaving gloves.

The CoreControl cooling gloves, created by Stanford biologists, removes heat while cooling blood. The gloves have been used by college and professional sports teams and firefighters across the country. Fire departments using them in a working fire can use them to rehab fire companies that have exited the hot zone. CoreControl rapidly exchanges core body heat up to 5X faster than perspiration and quickly lowers resting heart rate.

The gloves purchased by the SFMO will initially be given to selected fire departments across the state for testing.

Additional fire safety techniques and tips can be found on the SFMO page of the MID website at [www.mid.ms.gov](http://www.mid.ms.gov) , on Facebook and on Twitter @msfiresafe.

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