



MISSISSIPPI STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MIKE CHANEY
State Fire Marshal

PRESS RELEASE

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State Fire Marshal Warns of Fire Threat in Unvented Fireplace Installation

Jackson, MS – Anyone adding a fireplace to a home they are building or remodeling needs to be aware of a potential fire hazard caused by the improper installation of unvented fireplaces, State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney announced today.

“The issue we are seeing more and more is people having these unvented fireplaces built or installed without the installer following the proper manufacturer’s instructions,” Chaney said.

An improperly installed firebox can have cracks which allow heat and flames to escape into the framework of a home and catch fire. The State Fire Marshal’s Office in conjunction with the natural gas and propane industries requires one of three types of fireboxes to be used when installing an unvented fireplace and/or gas logs.

- An operable masonry built wood-burning fireplace
- An UL-127 listed and operable manufactured vented woodburning firebox
- An ANSI.Z21.91 listed, manufactured vent-free firebox/enclosure

It is also required that homeowners and builders carefully follow manufacturer’s instructions and local codes when installing any unvented fireplace.

If you have further questions about the installation of an unvented fireplace contact the LC Gas Division of the Mississippi State Fire Marshal at 601-359-1061.