

To: All Fire Chiefs  
From: Gary L. West, Deputy Commissioner  
Date: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
**Subject: 2017 Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest**

It is time to begin preparations for our annual Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest! Fire Prevention Week is October 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Fire departments nationwide observe this week each year to mark the anniversary of the [Great Chicago Fire of 1871](#).

This year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is ***"Every Second Counts—Know Two Ways Out!"*** According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), you have as little as one to two minutes to escape a house fire. Having an escape plan and practicing emergency exit drills can be the difference between life and death in an emergency. It is crucial that our fire departments use Fire Prevention Week to promote public awareness of fire prevention and fire safety, drawing special attention to the importance of home fire escape planning and Exit Drills in the Home (EDITH).

Enclosed you will find information on this year's contest. Should you have any questions about the poster contest, please contact Baylie Scott at (615) 350-4290 or [Baylie.Scott@TN.gov](mailto:Baylie.Scott@TN.gov).

Thank you for all of your public fire education efforts and the support of our statewide programs. Keep up the great work!



## Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office 2017 Poster Contest Guidelines

1. The poster contest is open to all students in grades Kindergarten through 12th. There are 16 statewide awards available:
  - One statewide winner will be chosen from each grade.
  - One winner will be chosen by the Commissioner of Commerce & Insurance as the "Commissioner's Choice."
  - Two winners from special needs classes will be chosen:
    - 1 from Division I (K– 5th grade)
    - 1 from Division II (6th – 12th grade)
2. Posters must be original work of the students and must emphasize the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) annual theme, which is "**Every Second Counts—Know Two Ways Out!**" Fire Prevention Week is October 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017. You can find information on the theme here: <http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week>.
3. Posters may be any size and may be drawn, colored, painted or three dimensional. The use of fire should not be involved in the creation of the posters. Posters with real burn marks will automatically be disqualified.
4. All entries **MUST** have a registration form attached on the back of the poster. These are conveniently located at the back of this packet.

5. Fire departments must have their winning posters submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office no later than **November 30, 2017**, to be considered for statewide judging. If a fire department has entries from multiple schools, the fire department will need to judge the posters locally to determine winners to advance to the state competition. **The maximum number of posters a fire department can submit to the State Fire Marshal's Office is 16 (1 for each grade and 1 for each of the 2 special needs divisions).**

Fire departments can use the attached timeline to make sure that posters get delivered to them on time. However, fire departments are also welcome to use any timeline they choose, as long as final entries are submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office by the November 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Please submit entries to the following address:

**State Fire Marshal's Office**  
**Attn: Baylie Scott**  
**500 James Robertson Parkway, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Nashville, TN 37243**

6. State judging will be held the week of **December 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**, in Nashville. Winners will be notified (after the Fire Chief's notification) soon after that date. A list of winners and pictures of the winning posters will be posted on the State Fire Marshal's website.

The statewide winners chosen will each receive a First Place ribbon, a certificate of achievement from the Governor, \$50 cash, and an awards event in their honor at the TN Fire Service and Code Enforcement Academy in February 2017 (hotel accommodations provided). You can view last year's awards event and winning posters using this link:

[http://tn.gov/assets/entities/commerce/attachments/2016\\_Fire\\_Prevention\\_Poster\\_Contest\\_Winners.pdf](http://tn.gov/assets/entities/commerce/attachments/2016_Fire_Prevention_Poster_Contest_Winners.pdf)

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Complete Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Child is enrolled in special education (circle one):    YES                    NO

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Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Complete Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department's Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Child is enrolled in special education (circle one):    YES                    NO

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Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Child is enrolled in special education (circle one):    YES                    NO

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