



CITY OF ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
**PROCLAMATION**

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK  
OCTOBER 9-15, 2011**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Rochelle is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

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

**WHEREAS**, home fires killed more than 2,500 people in the United States in 2009, according to the latest research from the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to more than 360,000 home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, cooking equipment is the leading cause of home structure fires and associated injuries, and the third leading cause of home fire deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, heating and electrical equipment and smoking materials are among the leading causes of all reported home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, home candle fires are reported to a US fire department every 30 minutes, on average; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of dying in a home structure fire caused by smoking materials rises with age; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

**WHEREAS**, automatic fire sprinkler systems cut the risk of dying in a home fire by about 80%; and

**WHEREAS**, Rochelle's firefighters are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

**WHEREAS**, Rochelle residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2011 Fire Prevention Week theme, "It's Fire Prevention Week. Protect your Family from Fire!" effectively serves to remind us all of the simple actions we can take to keep our homes and families safe from fire during Fire Prevention Week and year-round.

**THEREFORE**, I Chet Olson, Mayor of Rochelle, do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2011 as Fire Prevention Week in Rochelle, and I urge all the people of Rochelle to protect their homes and families by heeding the important safety messages of Fire Prevention Week 2011, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Rochelle Fire Department.

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*Chet Olson, Mayor*

Attest:

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*Bruce W. McKinney, CMC, City Clerk*