

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Volunteer Firefighter Alliance partners with State Fire Marshal
to provide home smoke alarm installations to Greene County.**

The State Fire Marshal's Office recently presented the Volunteer Firefighter Alliance with a supply of smoke alarms to be installed in homes within the community at high risk of fire. The department personnel attended an information session and training course on the new alarms, which utilize a battery with a 10-year lifespan.

This statewide, months-long distribution of smoke alarms is all part of the State Fire Marshal's effort to both educate and equip Tennesseans to incorporate fire safety into their daily lives.

"We want residents to make sure they have functional smoke alarms in their homes, as well as a rehearsed fire-escape plan. These are tools proven to save lives – because even one fire death is one too many," says State Fire Marshal Julie Mix McPeak.

The alarms are free, but must be installed by the fire department or a partnering organization that has received the training course. Because supplies are limited, the fire department may need to give first preference to those who are not able to otherwise afford smoke alarms.

"We are excited to be able to partner with the State Fire Marshal's Office in providing these smoke alarms for the citizens here in Greene County" said Executive Director Alan Bohms of the Volunteer Firefighter Alliance. "Fire can spread through a home in a matter of minutes and smoke alarms can give residents the warning needed to get out safely."

To request an installation, call 423-393-3370 and provide your name, address, and phone number. A VFA or fire department representative will then contact you to schedule a time for the installation.

For further information on fire safety, feel free to visit the State Fire Marshal's Office Get Alarmed Program website at <http://tn.gov/fire/getalarmed.shtml>.