

State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

700 West State Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0043
Phone (208)334-4250
FAX # (208)334-4398
Website: <http://www.doi.idaho.gov>

WILLIAM W. DEAL
Director

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 11, 2014

CONTACT: Tricia Carney
208-334-4312
tricia.carney@doi.idaho.gov
Cell 208-850-2342

HEATING YOUR HOME SAFELY THIS WINTER
An important message from the Idaho State Fire Marshal's Office

BOISE ID (December 11, 2014) – The recent fire in Twin Falls that tragically claimed two young lives serves as a reminder to use extra caution when heating your home during the winter months. Especially at risk are homes heated with fireplaces, space heaters or any type of stove.

“Heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths,” says Knute Sandahl, acting Idaho State Fire Marshal. “Most home heating fires could be prevented if people would follow a few simple safety tips and precautions.”

- Keep flammable materials at least three feet away from heating equipment
- Maintain a three foot “kid-free zone” around open fires and space heaters – keep pets away also
- Never use your stove or oven to heat your home
- Turn off portable heaters before leaving your home and before going to bed
- Install smoke alarms and test them monthly
- Any flame-producing appliance such as gas, wood-burning or pellet stoves; fireplaces; gas water heaters; etc. should have carbon monoxide detectors installed

Home fires occur more during the months of December, January and February than any other time of the year. Following these simple precautions could save a life.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to equitably, effectively and efficiently administer the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit www.doi.idaho.gov.

###