

### State Fire Marshal Announces Campus Fire Safety Month

**Causey reminds students and parents to keep fire safety in mind**

North Carolina Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey is reminding North Carolinians about fire safety on college campuses as students return to school.

"It is important for students to be aware of common fire causes such as cooking, candles, smoking materials and electrical equipment," said Causey. "As students return to campus, they find themselves in new living situations and need to assess potentially dangerous situations, locate fire extinguishers and test smoke alarms."

September has been declared Campus Fire Safety Month in North Carolina as an effort to raise fire and life safety awareness on college campuses.

- Since 2000, at least 171 people – including students, parents and children – have died in college-related fires; approximately 87 percent of these deaths occurred in off-campus occupancies.
- The National Fire Protection Association provides these campus and dorm safety tips for college students:
- Look for fire sprinkler-equipped housing.
  - Make sure there are fire alarms in each bedroom and outside every sleeping area.
  - Test all smoke alarms monthly.
  - Never remove batteries or disable an alarm.
  - Learn your building's evacuation plan and practice all drills.
  - If you live off campus, have a fire escape plan with two ways out of every room.
  - Stay in the kitchen when cooking.
  - Use a surge protector for your computer and plug the protector directly into an outlet.

For more information, visit The Center for Campus Fire Safety at [campusfiresafety.org](http://campusfiresafety.org) and the National Fire Protection Association at [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org).

### State Health Plan Retirees Seminar

A seminar for State Health Plan Retirees will be held at Grace Senior Center on Tuesday, October 10 at 11:30 a.m. The seminar facilitators will be SHIIP Counselors Joanne Clark and Thomasina Spencer.

If you are interested in attending, please call Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616 to register.

### Trunk or Treat at SPCC

South Piedmont Community College will host a Trunk or Treat event on Tuesday, October 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the L.L. Polk Campus in Polkton. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the fun. The first 250 receive a free gift!

This event is free! For more information about SPCC visit [www.spcc.edu](http://www.spcc.edu).

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