For Immediate Release
Tuesday, January 28, 2014

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Denver Fire Chief and Seattle Fire Chief compete for smoke alarms in friendly football wager

Manufacturer Kidde donates 350 smoke alarms to departments

DENVER – When the Denver Broncos and Seattle Seahawks face each other on Sunday, February 2, there will be more on the line than an NFL championship. The fire chiefs in Denver and Seattle are making the big game even more interesting by placing a friendly wager, a wager that may help save lives in the communities they help serve and protect.

Denver Fire Chief Eric Tade and Seattle Fire Chief Gregory Dean agreed to a challenge proposed by Kidde, a leading manufacturer of fire safety products. The chief whose team wins Sunday's game will receive 250 of Kidde's Worry-Free smoke alarms, donated by Kidde. Each alarm has a sealed-in lithium battery to offer nonstop power for 10 years without battery changes or low-battery chirping noises. The chief whose team loses the game will receive 100 of the Worry-Free alarms to install in his community – while wearing the jersey of the winning team.

Both chiefs emphasize the importance of working smoke alarms. "Just yesterday, a Denver couple was woken up before 4 a.m. when a home fire activated their smoke alarms and prompted them to get out of the house and call 911," said Denver Fire Chief Eric Tade. "We encourage all residents to replace smoke detectors every 10 years and test the batteries monthly."

Seattle Fire Chief Gregory Dean said, "Smoke detectors are residents' best first defense against the dangers of smoke and fire. A working smoke alarm will provide residents the vital early warning signal necessary for a safe evacuation from a burning home."

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), two-thirds of fire fatalities nationally occur in homes without smoke alarms or without working smoke alarms. The vast majority of non-working smoke alarms are due to missing or dead batteries. Kidde's sealed-in 10-year battery smoke alarms offer a decade of protection without ever having to replace the battery.

*Founded in 1866, the **Denver Fire Department** is dedicated to providing quality, timely, and professional emergency services to those who live in, work in, and visit the City and County of Denver and the communities we serve; respecting each other through trust, pride, diversity, integrity, and training; and working together to achieve the highest levels of preparedness, prevention, and community involvement with a dedication to purpose.*

*Organized in 1894, the **Seattle Fire Department** currently serves more than half a million people with 33 neighborhood fire stations. The mission of the Seattle Fire Department is to save lives and protect property through emergency medical service, fire and rescue response and fire prevention. We respond immediately when any member of our community needs help with professional, effective and compassionate service.*

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