



Office of the Chief

Chief John R. Batiste

“Service with Humility”

*****For Immediate Release*****

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Government and Media Relations

State Fire Marshal's Office
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The Rules for Sellers Regarding Smoke Alarms

Olympia – In 2019, 54 people were killed in residential fires in Washington State. Approximately 70% of those fatalities occurred in homes without working smoke alarms.

The Washington State Fire Marshal advises residents that the Residential Code of Washington requires Sellers involved in a real estate transaction provide a working smoke alarm to the Buyer.

Section 3 (b) of [RCW 43.44.110](#) states that “for any dwelling unit sold on or after July 1, 2019, that does not have at least one smoke detection device, the seller shall provide at least one smoke detection device in the dwelling unit before the buyer or any other person occupies the dwelling unit following such sale.”

Failure to provide a working smoke alarm shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars.

For more information, call the State Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 596-3929.

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The State Fire Marshal's Office is a Bureau of the Washington State Patrol, providing fire and life safety services to the citizens of Washington State including inspections of state licensed facilities, plan review of school construction projects, licensing of fire sprinkler contractors and pyrotechnic operators, training Washington States firefighters, and collecting emergency response data.

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