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Holiday Safety

As you prepare to decorate your place of business for the Christmas holiday, please keep the following safety guidelines in mind.

TREE CARE:

Select a live tree that does not easily shed its needles. Do not place the tree near a heat source or where it might obstruct an exit. Maintain a constant supply of water for the base of the tree. Take the tree down when it begins to shed. Do not burn the tree in your fire place. Artificial trees should be flame retardant.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS:

Do not use lights with frayed cords or damaged sockets. Use only UL approved lights. Take care not to overload your electrical circuits. Do not link more than three strands of lights together. Avoid the use of extension cords. Where they must be used, take care not to run them under furniture or carpeting or in the path of travel. Do not leave holiday lights on while sleeping or away from your home.

CANDLES:

Use candles only in tip-proof holders on a stable surface. Keep candles away from decorations, curtains, bedding, etc. Keep candles, matches, and lighters out of the reach of children. Never leave candles burning when you go to bed or leave your home.

DECORATIONS:

Keep decorations away from sources of heat.

FIREPLACES:

Keep chimney and fireplace in good repair and clean regularly. Inspect it annually. Never burn wrapping paper or other household waste. Keep the fireplace screen closed when using the fireplace. Keep combustibles away from the fireplace.

SPACE HEATERS:

Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything that can burn. Turn them off when you leave

the room. Do not use a space heater with a damaged cord or one that gets hot while the unit is in use. Liquid fuel heaters should be fueled outside the house and should be allowed to cool before being fueled. Liquid fuel should not be stored in the house.

FURNACE:

Your furnace should be inspected annually and burners should be cleaned if necessary. Do not put anything that can burn closer than three feet from the furnace or water heater.

WOOD-BURNERS:

If you burn wood for heat, use only seasoned, dry wood. Do not burn wrapping paper or other household waste. Inspect and clean chimney and vent at least annually. Keep anything that will burn at least three feet away from the wood-burner.

FIREWORKS:

Fireworks are illegal in the state of Wisconsin. They are also unsafe.

PARTY SAFETY:

Use only non-flammable decorations and costumes. Use deep, tip-proof ashtrays. Empty ashtrays often into noncombustible containers. Wet the ashes down. Don't let friends drink and drive.

ESCAPE PLAN:

Year 'round, it is important for your family to have a home escape plan and to have an safe meeting place outside the home where the family can gather after exiting the home in case of fire.

SMOKE DETECTORS:

Check your smoke detector by pressing the test button. If it does not function properly, try replacing the battery. If it still does not function, replace the detector. If the detector is more than ten years old, it should be replaced.

**If you have any further questions regarding holiday safety,
personnel at the Superior Fire Department are available to assist you.
Have a happy and safe holiday season.**

Copies of the Wisconsin COMM codes may be obtained from the *Wisconsin Department of Administration, Document Sales & Distribution Section, 202 South Thornton Avenue, P.O. Box 7840, Madison, WI 53707-7840* or may be downloaded from their website at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/>.