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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tips for Industrial and Commercial Buildings: How to Protect Fire Service Sprinklers and Standpipes from Breaking Due to Cold Weather

Many fire service sprinklers and standpipes for commercial and industrial buildings are located in unheated areas. The recent cold weather has caused many fire sprinklers and standpipes to break disrupting essential fire protection service to the affected buildings.

Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand and Fire Commissioner Harold Hairston urge commercial and industrial building owners and facility managers to take necessary precautions to prevent the water from freezing causing these pipes to break:

- Wrap and insulate all water pipes in unheated areas.
- Wrap the water meter and the connecting piping with insulation.
- Keep the water meter above 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Caulk windows near water meters or pipes and cover those windows with plastic.
- Replace or cover cracked or broken windows.
- Have any vacant properties winterized by a registered plumber.

“We strongly urge that owners and managers of industrial and commercial establishments take these necessary precautions to ensure that their fire protection systems are in proper working order and to prevent unnecessary water damage to their facilities,” noted Fire Commissioner Harold Hairston.

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