

2012 National Arson Awareness Week Sample Proclamation Request Letter

[Print on organizational letterhead]

[Date]

The Honorable [first and last name]

Governor of [insert State]

State Capitol

City, State, Zip

Dear Governor [insert last name]:

On behalf of the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), I am contacting you for your support in proclaiming May 6-12, 2012, as "Arson Awareness Week."

The theme for this year's Arson Awareness Week is "Prevent Youth Firesetting."

Between 2005 - 2009, fires started by children playing accounted for an average of 56,300 fires with associated losses of 110 civilian deaths, 880 civilian injuries and \$286 million in direct property damage per year.

In 2010, according to the FBI, 40% of arson arrests were juveniles with 47.6 % of those children under 16 years of age.

Parents should teach young children that fire is a tool, not a toy; keep matches and lighters out of reach, in high, ideally locked cabinets; and set a good example by safely using matches, lighters and fire. The most important thing a parent or caregiver can do is to always supervise young children.

Please join with the many states that have already proclaimed this week as "Arson Awareness Week."

If you have any further questions regarding this endeavor, please contact me at (xxx) xxx-xxxx or Timothy Patrick O'Dowd, USFA Liaison, at Tim.ODowd@fema.dhs.gov

Respectfully Yours,

[Your name, title and address]

2012 National Arson Awareness Week Sample Resolution

WHEREAS, The theme for 2012 Arson Awareness Week is Prevent Youth Firesetting; and

WHEREAS, Between 2005 - 2009, fires started by children playing accounted for an average of 56,300 fires with associated losses of 110 civilian deaths, 880 civilian injuries and \$286 million in direct property damage per year; and

WHEREAS In 2010, 40% of arson arrests were juveniles with 47.6 % of those children under 16 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Parents should teach young children that fire is a tool, not a toy; keep matches and lighters out of reach; and set a good example by safely using matches, lighters and fire; and

WHEREAS, we will use the week of May 6–12 to focus public attention on the importance of a collaborative effort with fire and emergency service departments, law enforcement, mental health, social services, schools, and juvenile justice to help reduce the occurrence of juveniles engaged with fire; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, [Governor's or Mayor's name], [Governor or Mayor] of [City or State], on behalf of its citizens do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2012, to be Arson Awareness Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the [Governor or Mayor] and [insert Cabinet or Council, etc.] pay special tribute to all fire and law enforcement investigative agencies for their dedicated and tireless service.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the [insert Governor or Mayor] and [insert Cabinet or Council, etc.] of the [insert City or State] have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the Official Seal of the [insert City and County or State] to be hereunto affixed in the

[City or State] of _____ on this _____ day of
_____ 2012.

_____[Signature]

Proclamation

2012 National Arson Awareness Week

WHEREAS, The theme for 2012 Arson Awareness Week is Prevent Youth Firesetting; and

WHEREAS, Between 2005 - 2009, fires started by children playing accounted for an average of 56,300 fires with associated losses of 110 civilian deaths, 880 civilian injuries and \$286 million in direct property damage per year; and

WHEREAS In 2010, 40% of arson arrests were juveniles with 47.6 % of those children under 16 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Parents should teach young children that fire is a tool, not a toy; keep matches and lighters out of reach; and set a good example by safely using matches, lighters and fire; and

WHEREAS, we will use the week of May 6–12 to focus public attention on the importance of a collaborative effort with fire and emergency service departments, law enforcement, mental health, social services, schools, and juvenile justice to help reduce the occurrence of juveniles engaged with fire; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that The International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc., Board of Directors meeting in Executive Session on November 1, 1985, in Atlanta, Georgia, hereby proclaims the week, beginning on May 4, 1986, as National Arson Awareness Week, and the first full week of May shall be so designated each year thereafter.