

## For Immediate Release

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## Fire Prevention Week - Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!

[Monroe, WA] – Fire Prevention Week is October 6 – 12, and Snohomish County Fire District 7 is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association<sup>®</sup> (NFPA<sup>®</sup>) to promote this year's campaign, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" The campaign works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

NFPA statistics show that in 2017 U.S. fire departments responded to 357,000 home structure fires. These fires caused 2,630 fire deaths and 10,600 fire injuries. On average, seven people died in a fire in a home per day during 2012 to 2016.

"These numbers show that home fires continue to pose a significant threat to safety," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have, giving everyone enough time to get out."

"Situational awareness is a skill people need to use wherever they go," said Heather Chadwick, Public Information and Education Officer. "No matter where you are, look for available exits. If the alarm system sounds, take it seriously and exit the building immediately."

Fire District 7 is hosting the annual Open House at Station 31 – 163 Village Court, Monroe - on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 4:00 in support of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" Come dressed in your favorite superhero outfit and learn about how you can help keep your family safe. The first 100 kids will receive a FREE superhero cape!

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week Open House visit Fire District 7's website <u>www.Snofire7.org</u>. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and home escape planning, visit <u>www.fpw.org</u>.

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Snohomish County Fire District 7 provides fire and life safety services to over 118,500 people over 98.5 square miles in central and east Snohomish County, including the communities of Clearview, Maltby, Mill Creek and Monroe. In 2018 our emergency personnel responded to more than 11,000 emergency calls. Through taxpayer support, Fire District 7 has built one of the most advanced emergency response systems in Snohomish County with highly-trained personnel, facilities, apparatus, and rescue programs. We appreciate your support and are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community.

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