



# NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Glendale Fire Department

6829 North 58th Drive / Glendale, Arizona 85301  
623-930-4400



May 17, 2016

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## UNATTENDED CANDLE RESPONSIBLE FOR GLENDALE HOUSE FIRE

**Glendale, Ariz.** — On May 16, firefighters were dispatched to a house fire likely caused by a candle that was left unattended when the homeowner left the residence.

Around 4:30 p.m., firefighters encountered a fire burning in the master bedroom of the home, located near 6700 North 74 Drive, but were able to extinguish it before it spread to the remainder of the home.

Several visitors were at the house while the homeowner was away and alerted to the fire after smelling smoke.

Paramedics treated one elderly woman at the scene for minor smoke inhalation.

The Glendale Fire Department wants to remind everyone to use extra care when using candles.

### FACTS

- From 2009-2013, there were approximately 9,300 U.S. home fires started by candles. Of those 9,300 fires, 86 people died and 827 were injured.
- Candle fires caused \$374 million in direct property damage.
- 36% of home candle fires start in the bedroom
- 55% of candle fires were from a combustible material placed too close to the candle.
- 12% of candle fires started after the user fell asleep.

### SAFETY TIPS

- Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from items that can burn such as curtains, clothing and paper.
- Use sturdy candleholders that won't tip over and are large enough to collect dripping wax.
- Place candles in areas where children and pets cannot get near them or tip them.
- Keep candles away from flammable liquids.
- Trim wicks to one-quarter inch.
- Discard candles when wicks are within two inches of the holder.
- Store candles and matches out of a child's reach.
- Do not use a candle during a power outage, use a flashlight.

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