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UNATTENDED CANDLE RESPONSIBLE FOR GLENDALE CONDO FIRE

Glendale, Ariz. — Yesterday afternoon, firefighters were dispatched to a fire likely caused by a candle that was left unattended when the occupant left the residence.

Firefighters encountered a fire burning in a bedroom on the second floor of a condominium, located near 4600 West Maryland Avenue, but were able to extinguish it quickly before it spread to the remainder of the home.

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

FACTS

- In 2010, there were approximately 9,600 U.S. home fires started by candles. Of those 9,600 fires, 90 people died and 820 were injured.
- Candle fires cause \$370 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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