



# NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[GlendalesAZ.com/Fire](http://GlendalesAZ.com/Fire)

## Glendale Fire Department

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623-930-4400



June 2, 2016

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## **GLENDALE FIRE CHIEF ACCEPTS DROWNING AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION FROM MAYOR**

**Glendale, Ariz.** — Glendale Fire knows there is never a wrong time to promote drowning prevention or water safety.

With a string of drownings earlier this year, the fire department wants to start their drowning awareness messaging earlier than August, when it is normally broadcasted.

On Wednesday, June 1, Glendale Fire Chief Terry Garrison accepted a proclamation from Mayor Jerry Weiers at Rose Lane Pool, stating the City of Glendale officially proclaims August 2016 as Drowning Impact Awareness Month in support of Water Watchers at Phoenix Children's Hospital and the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Arizona.

Through this proclamation, along with swim lessons and water safety education provided to the community, the Mayor and Councilmembers, Glendale Fire Department, and Glendale Parks and Recreation Department, will actively work together to promote water safety and prevent childhood drowning.

The goal this year is to transform awareness into action by encouraging citizens, organizations, and businesses to make the community aware of ways to prevent drownings through media and education and to remember that all drownings are preventable.

“When children see a body of water, they tend to get excited but as firefighters we know that pools, lakes and canals are extremely dangerous,” Fire Chief Terry Garrison said. “Especially when there is not adult supervision 100% of the time, residents do not have barriers in place like pool fences and children have not had swim lessons.”

To further support the City of Glendale's mission of securing a safe summer for all residents, water safety information will be provided at both City of Glendale pools and at the City of Glendale's "Surviving the Summer" Safety Event at the Westgate Entertainment District on June 3, 2016. Glendale employees will also wear purple ribbons throughout the month of August in honor of those touched by child drownings and as a reminder to practice water safety, and Drowning Impact Awareness banners will be hanging at every fire station and outside the Foothills Recreation Center and Rose Lane Pool.

The Glendale Fire Department is available throughout the year to give water safety presentations and to provide drowning prevention and water safety resources.

For more information about the City of Glendale's "Surviving the Summer" safety event, please visit <http://www.glendaleaz.com/safesummer/>.

If you would like to schedule a class, presentation or training with the Glendale Fire Department, please contact Dr. Janet Boberg at 623-930-4483 or email her at [jboberg@glendaleaz.com](mailto:jboberg@glendaleaz.com).

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