

March 03, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Fire Department Warns of Smoke Alarm Phone Scam

The Springfield Fire Department would like to warn citizens of a potential scam disguised as a phone call from a firefighter.

A citizen recently reported receiving a phone call from a man claiming to be a 13-year veteran firefighter. The caller asked about changing batteries in the homeowner's smoke detector. The recipient told the caller that his number is on the state no-call list, but the caller replied that he was not selling anything. The citizen who received the call was astute enough to ask for a return phone number, and was provided a bogus number. The recipient said the caller sounded as if he was reading from a script.

The Springfield Fire Department does not make unsolicited phone calls of any kind. Anyone receiving an unsolicited call about smoke detectors is advised to report the call to the Springfield Fire Department at (417) 864-1500.

The Fire Department does provide free smoke alarm installations — but only by request. Springfield residents can contact the Fire Department at (417) 864-1515 to request an installation in their home.

Media inquiries only: Contact Randy Villines, Assistant Fire Chief, (417) 864-1500.



Springfield Fire Department

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