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## **News Release**

Broward Sheriff's Office • Department of Media Relations  
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# **CHANGE CLOCKS, CHANGE SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES SHERIFF ANNOUNCES FREE COMMUNITY BATTERY EXCHANGE**

**DATE:** November 3, 2010

**PIO NUMBER:** 10-11-4

**FAMILY SAVED BY SMOKE ALARM TO KICKOFF EVENT  
2:30 p.m. Thursday, November 4, 2010  
Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue Station #14  
791 NW 31 Ave., Lauderhill**

Working smoke alarms can mean the difference between life and death when it comes to house fires. Each year 3,000 people die in residential fires in the United States. On Thursday, November 4, the Broward Sheriff's Office is announcing a countywide free battery exchange program to promote proper smoke alarm use. Scheduled to attend this event are Yvonne Smith, her daughter Roshae Hemans, and son Jermaine Hemans. The family was sound asleep in their central Broward home last January when an early morning fire broke out. A visiting friend heard the smoke alarm sounding and alerted the sleeping family. They escaped the fire, unharmed, thanks to a working smoke alarm.

Many homes do not have working smoke alarms, not enough smoke alarms or alarms that are outdated and should be replaced. Broward Sheriff Al Lamberti said, "While smoke alarms save lives, they must be properly maintained and tested so they'll work in case of a fire." Many homes have smoke alarms that aren't working or maintained properly, usually because of missing, disconnected or dead batteries. **Through funding by the Sheriff's Foundation of Broward County, residents can get a free 9 volt smoke alarm battery when they bring in an old one at any Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue station listed below during the month of November.**

- Ron Cochran Public Safety Building - 2601 West Broward Blvd., Fort Lauderdale
- Central Broward Fire Station #14 - 791 NW 31 Ave., Lauderhill
- BSFR Haz-Mat Fire Station #17 - 2308 SW 42 St., Dania Beach
- Pembroke Park/West Park Fire Station #27 - 2610 SW 40 Ave., West Park
- Cooper City Fire Station #28 - 10550 Stirling Rd., Cooper City
- Southwest Ranches Fire Station #36 - 17220 Griffin Rd., Southwest Ranches
- Lauderdale Lakes Fire Station #37 - 3461 NW 43 Ave., Lauderdale Lakes
- **Weston Fire Station #55 - 3955 Bonaventure Blvd., Weston**
- **Weston Fire Station #67 - 951 Saddle Club Rd., Weston**
- **Weston Fire Station #81 - 17350 Royal Palm Blvd., Weston**

This report by:  
Mike Jachles/PIO  
11/03/10 1500