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## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### SAGINAW FIRE DEPARTMENT REMINDS RESIDENTS -- CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

**MARCH 7, 2019 SAGINAW, MI** –Saginaw residents are reminded that daylight savings time begins this weekend. In addition to changing the time on your clocks, the Saginaw Fire Department would like to encourage residents to also change the batteries in their smoke alarms. This simple habit could save a life.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms. ***“Change your clock, change your battery”*** is a simple phrase that reminds us to always make sure we have working smoke alarms in our homes.

Saginaw Fire Chief Chris Van Loo advises residents to make sure their smoke alarms are in working order. “Time and again, I’ve seen the life-saving impact smoke alarms can have in a home fire, but I’ve also seen the tragedy that can result when smoke alarms aren’t working properly. That’s why we’re making a concerted effort to educate Saginaw residents about the importance of having a working smoke alarm in

their home. It is also important to remind residents to replace any smoke alarms that are over 10 years old.”

The Saginaw Fire Department currently has free, long-life, sealed battery smoke alarms available for residents in need. Funding for the free smoke alarms was provided through a FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant. City of Saginaw residents can contact the Saginaw Fire Department if they are in need of new smoke alarms. Firefighters will install the necessary number of smoke alarms in resident’s homes free of charge.

Saginaw residents that would like to request free smoke alarms or needing assistance are encouraged to call the Saginaw Fire Department Fire Prevention Division at (989) 759-1393.

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