



# CLAY FIRE

18355 Auten Road • South Bend, IN 46637 Telephone: (574) 272-2144  
Fax: (574) 272-4043

## *For Immediate Release*

Date: 1-7-14

Subject: Residential Structure Fire 53000 Fir Rd.

Contact Person: Battalion Chief Brentlinger

At approx. 2030 hrs. Clay Fire was dispatched to a residence fire in the 53000 block of Fir Road in Harris Township. Upon arrival there was smoke coming from the front door. The occupant extinguished most of the fire but suffered smoke inhalation while doing so. The occupant was transported to the hospital for further evaluation. Clay fire extinguished the rest of the fire and checked for extension. The fire started in the bedroom from a candle that was knocked over and was contained to the room of origin. There were no other injuries reported at the time of the incident.

Per NFPA, "During 2007-2011, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 10,630 home structure fires started by candles per year. More than one-third (36%) of home candle fires started in bedrooms."

### Some Candle Safety Tips:

- Consider using battery-operated or electric flameless candles and fragrance warmers, which can look, smell and feel like real candles – without the flame.
- If you do use candles, ensure they are in sturdy metal, glass or ceramic holders and placed where they cannot be easily knocked down.
- Extinguish candles after use and before going to bed.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.
- Never use a candle where medical oxygen is being used. The two can combine to create a large, unexpected fire.
- And NEVER leave burning candles unattended!