

# PRESS RELEASE



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City Manager

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Plano FD Hosts Press Conference— Area Fire Chiefs to Discuss Concern Over Passage of SB 1410**

The Plano Fire Department will host a press **conference on Monday, June 8** at 12:00 noon featuring area fire chiefs and their representatives to discuss opposition to the passage of Senate Bill 1410 which prohibits a city from enacting ordinances concerning residential fire sprinkler systems.

The bill was opposed by several groups including the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, the Texas Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association, the Building Officials Association of Texas and the Texas Municipal League. Despite the efforts of these groups, the bill passed in the Senate on April 7 and passed in House amendments on May 29.

The bill states that *after January 1, 2009 a municipality may not enact an ordinance, by law, order, building code, or rule requiring the installation of a multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler system or any other fire sprinkler protection system in a new or existing one- or two-family dwelling.*

Currently, the City of Plano's code states that *one- and two-family dwellings of 6,000 square feet or more must be fitted with residential sprinklers.* Most other cities in the DFW metroplex also have codes in place governing residential sprinkler systems. At the heart of the opposition is the fact that the bill will rescind the Texas tradition of "Home Rule" whereby local officials and citizens are allowed to determine the best fire and building code requirements to address their unique circumstances.

This press conference, and others around Texas, will be held Monday as the Executive Board of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association holds a press conference in Austin stressing their opposition to the bill. It is the hope of these fire chiefs and representatives that Governor Perry will veto the bill. Ironically, Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> is the one year anniversary of the fire which destroyed the Governor's Mansion in Austin.

The press conference will be held at the Plano Fire Administration Building located at 1901 K Avenue in Plano.

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