



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 5, 2010

### **Fire Fatality in Sitka**

A fire fatality occurred in Sitka on Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup>. The adult male victim was unable to escape the fire in his efficiency apartment when the fire blocked his only escape from the bedroom. The bedroom had no windows and only one door out. It is not clear at this point if the smoke alarm operated or not. The home owners were awakened by their smoke alarms and escaped the blaze. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

It is very important for Alaskans to remember that all bedrooms should have two ways out, and a working smoke alarm in each bedroom as well as in the area outside of the bedrooms.

Make an escape plan for all ways out of each room and practice the plan regularly. Sign up for a free monthly email reminder to check your smoke alarms at [www.burny.alaska.gov](http://www.burny.alaska.gov).

Alaska residents with questions and/or concerns about updated smoke alarm recommendations may contact the Alaska Division of Fire and Life Safety at (907) 746-5062 or visit their web site [www.burny.alaska.gov](http://www.burny.alaska.gov).

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**For More Information:**

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