



National Electrical Manufacturers Association

October 25, 2010

M. Rony Francis, MD, MSPH, PhD
Director, Division of Public Health
Georgia Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30303-3186

Dear Dr. Francis,

On behalf of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association's (NEMA) Signaling, Protection and Communication Section, I want to congratulate you for the Division of Public Health's implementation of the successful Smoke Alarm Installation and Fire Safety Education (SAIFE) program. NEMA commends you and the Division for your commitment to advancing life safety.

NEMA is the association of electrical and medical imaging equipment manufacturers. Founded in 1926 and headquartered near Washington, D.C., its approximately 450 member companies manufacture products used in the generation, transmission and distribution, control, and end use of electricity. These products are used in utility, industrial, commercial, institutional, and residential applications and include smoke and carbon monoxide detection devices.

NEMA appreciates the work that you are doing to track the lives of Georgians saved by smoke detection technology. While the number of fire deaths that occur each year is widely known, similar data about the number of "lives saved" by operational smoke alarms/detectors traditionally has not been as well documented and publicized. The SAIFE program demonstrates to the public the importance of installing and properly maintaining smoke alarms/detectors which are the first, best defense in life safety. This program could become a model for other states to follow. To that end, we would appreciate any specific information you can provide on how this program was developed and how it is being maintained.

As you implement this visionary program and continue your efforts to educate Georgians on life safety, NEMA stands ready to work with you. We hope that you will consider our industry as one of your best resources for fire and life safety product information. We are available at any time to consult with you on these matters.

Thank you for your leadership, and best wishes for continued success.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Pitsor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kyle Pitsor
Vice President, Government Relations