



## For Immediate Release

October 28, 2016

### Trick or Treat Safety Tips



Next week on October 31<sup>st</sup>, children throughout Shelby County will go door-to-door for Halloween candy. “Please take time to plan your Halloween outing to ensure the event is fun and safe for your family,” said Dale Lane, Director Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

Here are safety tips for parents and kids:

- Talk with your children about Halloween safety before the event.
- Before leaving, lock doors, activate your alarm system, and keep your porch light on.
- Charge your cell phone and take it with you.
- Keep decorations away from heat sources (candles, lightbulbs, and heaters).
- Move decorations and props away from doorways, porches, and sidewalks.
- Use a battery-powered candle or glow stick in jack-o-lanterns.
- Be seen! Wear light colored, costumes and add reflective tape.
- Costumes, wigs and beards should be flame resistant.
- Avoid trips and falls – wear well-fitting shoes.
- Use non-toxic face paint instead of wearing a mask.
- If children carry a prop such as a sword, purchase the flexible plastic or soft variety.
- Try to complete the event before dark. If not, carry a flashlight or light stick.
- Have an adult accompany younger children.
- If older children go without an adult, parents should know their route ahead of time, and expected time of return.
- Walk in groups.
- If walking, stay on the sidewalk and cross at the intersection only.
- Never dart out into traffic.
- If driving, go slow and watch out for children and pets.
- Adults should inspect treats before children eat them. Only eat factory wrapped treats.
- If you notice suspicious behavior, alert the authorities immediately. Remember, **if you see something, say something!**

For more information about Halloween safety, please visit the United States Fire Administration at [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov) or the National Safety Council at [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org).

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