National Candle Association Reinforces the Call for Candle Safety Awareness

Recent Consumer Video Brings Attention to the Importance of Safe Candle Use

WASHINGTON, DC (August 4, 2017)—The National Candle Association (NCA), the major trade organization representing the U.S. candle industry, is restating the importance of safe candle use following news reports featuring a home video in which a Texas woman appears to sustain injuries while attempting to extinguish a candle.

The NCA website, www.candles.org, offers specific guidance for safe candle use. Among the rules that consumers should always follow when burning candles, are the following:

- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Always keep it within sight.
- Never burn a candle on or near anything that might catch fire.
- Keep candles out of reach of children and pets.
- Do not burn candles where there are drafts, vents, air currents or fans operating.
- Never use water to extinguish a candle. Water may cause hot wax to splatter or a glass container to break.
- Before lighting the candle always:
  o Trim the wick to ¼ inch height. Long or crooked wicks can cause uneven burning, dripping or flaring.
  o Make sure the wax pool is clear of debris such as matches and wick trimmings.
  o Use a proper candleholder that is sturdy, heat resistant and large enough to contain wax drips.
  o Place the candle on a heat-resistant surface.
  o Follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for proper burn time and use.
- Never touch or move a burning candle.
- Extinguish a flame immediately with a snuffer if it becomes too high or flickers repeatedly.
- Always use a snuffer to extinguish flames to prevent wax from splattering.
- Make sure a candle is extinguished completely and the wick no longer glowing before leaving the room.
- Don’t touch or move a candle until it has cooled completely.

Complete, downloadable candle safety guidelines are available on the National Candle Association website: www.candles.org.

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