



## PRESS RELEASE FROM THE TEXAS PROFESSIONAL REAL ESTATE INSPECTORS ASSOCIATION

Join the **U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission** and **TPREIA** in urging your audience to install a Carbon Monoxide detector in their home and in preparation for the colder weather, have their furnaces inspected.

According to CPSC, as the weather turns colder, consumers need to be aware of an invisible killer that can seep through the home, causing serious injury.

Inspections include the following components; furnaces, water heaters, chimneys, space heaters, boilers, fireplaces, oven flues and vents.

“Each year, CO poisoning from heating systems, water heaters, ranges and ovens kills about 80 people in the United State,” said CPSC Chairman Hal Stratton. “Many of these tragedies could be prevented by having a professional check these appliances annually for proper operation and CO leaks.

CO is a colorless, odorless gas that can be produced by burning fuel like natural gas, propane, oil, kerosene, coal and wood. Under certain conditions, any appliance can leak deadly levels of CO into the home.

Initial symptoms of CO poisoning are like the flu such as headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. Exposure to high levels can cause death.

CPSC recommends an annual inspection by a licensed air conditioning and heating contractor which encompasses the appliances above including chimneys, flues and vents. Birds, leaves and debris can block these exits forcing the CO to the interior of the home.

Finally CPSC recommends that all homes have a CO alarm in the hallway near the bedroom sleeping areas. Acceptable alarm standards should meet Canadian Standards Assoc 6.19-01, Underwriters Laboratories 2034, Second Edition, October 1998 or the International Approval Services 6-96, Second Edition, June 1, 1998.

Consumers should never use gas powered generators or charcoal grills in the home or near open windows or doors due to the risk of CO poisoning.

For more information please order “CO-The Invisible Killer” (CPSC-464) and other related brochures from CPSC on their website [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or thru the link at [www.TPREIA.com](http://www.TPREIA.com)

For additional information please contact TPREIA at [info@TPREIA.com](mailto:info@TPREIA.com) or 1-281-370-6803

