

Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation

The Resource for Rider Safety Education

Mission:

*To educate the public on the safe and proper use of elevators, escalators
and moving walks through informational programs*

September 16, 2015

Governor Nikki R. Haley
Governor of South Carolina
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

Did you know that children and senior citizens are the most-at-risk groups involved in accidents on elevators and escalators? Many serious accidents occur each year and sadly, with the proper education, almost all are avoidable. Although one of the safest modes of mass transit; safety on elevators, escalators and moving walks is frequently taken for granted.

On behalf of the Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation, we are submitting a proclamation request for your consideration. In recognition of the contributions the elevator industry has made to the public safety and lifestyle of this community, as well as to help raise awareness about elevator and escalator safety, we are asking that November 8 - 14, 2015 be proclaimed "National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week."

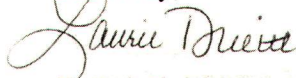
We have enclosed a draft proclamation, which outlines relevant points about the elevator industry. Should you need additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

To proceed with public relation plans concerning our week, we respectfully request your consideration regarding this proclamation be made as soon as possible.

In addition, we request the opportunity to print a photograph at the signing of the proclamation during National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Laurie Dueitt
EESF Program Director
laurie@eesf.org

Enclosure: 1) Sample proclamation; 2) 2014 National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week publication

Safety Week

Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation (EESF) organizes annual event to provide a focal point to spread the word about safety.

by Hanno van der Bijl

While elevators and escalators remain the safest form of transportation, they still pose a threat to the safety of young children, the elderly and distracted passengers. Paul Saxon, Safety Administrator with the Allegheny County Airport Authority at Pittsburgh International Airport, says, “In 2014, slips and falls on conveyances are still approximately 50% of our total slips/trips/fall incidents on airport property.” EESF organizes the annual National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week (Safety Week) to collaborate with individuals, companies and organizations to lower percentages like that and celebrate the contributions made by the industry.

EESF held the first Safety Awareness Week in the U.S. in 1994, later including Canada in 2006. It is scheduled for the second full week in November in preparation for the holiday season when people are shopping in large malls and rushing through busy airports to visit family. EESF produces a self-contained kit and planning guide that include all the resources an organization needs to host a local celebration to promote the week.

As part of its efforts to raise awareness, EESF sends a request to state governors and mayors of the 200 most populated cities in the U.S. to officially declare Safety Week in their jurisdictions. In 2014, 28 governors and 88 mayors participated. Of these participants, three governors and 31 mayors signed the proclamation for the first time.

One city to observe Safety Week was Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh International Airport (PIA) has 31 escalators, 21 moving walks and 13 elevators in its terminals. James Gill, acting



A young traveler watches a video produced by EESF on how to safely ride elevators, escalators and moving walks.

executive director, Allegheny County Airport Authority said:

“Escalators and moving [walks] are prominent [features] of airports. They benefit travelers by being able to move large numbers of people without waiting, and guiding people

Model Proclamation

Governor
Governor the STATE

Participating States and Cities

States		
Alabama	Maryland	North Carolina
Alaska	Michigan	Oklahoma
Arizona	Minnesota	Pennsylvania
Arkansas	Mississippi	Rhode Island
Colorado	Missouri	South Carolina
Delaware*	Montana	Tennessee
Georgia	Nevada	Vermont*
Illinois	New Hampshire*	West Virginia
Kentucky	New Mexico	Wisconsin
Maine		
Cities		
Anchorage, Alaska	Washington, D.C.	Southaven, Mississippi*
Goodyear, Arizona*	Deerfield Beach, Florida*	Henderson, Nevada
Scottsdale, Arizona	Dunedin, Florida	Las Vegas, Nevada
Tucson, Arizona	Jacksonville, Florida	North Las Vegas, Nevada
Brea, California*	Key West, Florida*	Reno, Nevada
Buena Park, California	Lakeland, Florida	Buffalo, New York
Concord, California	Margate, Florida	Islip, New York
Costa Mesa, California*	Orlando, Florida	Asheville, North Carolina*
Covina, California*	Panama City, Florida*	Durham, North Carolina
Delano, California*	Pembroke Pines, Florida*	Cleveland, Ohio
Fontana, California*	Pompano Beach, Florida	Columbus, Ohio
Fremont, California	Port St. Lucie, Florida	Fairfield, Ohio*
Garden Grove, California*	Tampa, Florida	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Hanford, California*	Columbus, Georgia	Portland, Oregon
Huntington Park, California*	Savannah, Georgia	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Irvine, California	Honolulu, Hawaii	Charleston, South Carolina
Moreno Valley, California*	Bolingbrook, Illinois*	Columbia, South Carolina
Oakland, California	Chicago, Illinois	Chattanooga, Tennessee
Oceanside, California*	Hoffman Estate, Illinois	Memphis, Tennessee
Ontario, California	Peoria, Illinois	Arlington, Texas
Palm Desert, California*	Louisville, Kentucky	Austin, Texas
Redwood City, California*	Shreveport, Louisiana	McAllen, Texas*
Roseville, California*	Baltimore, Maryland	McKinney, Texas
Sacramento, California	Springfield, Massachusetts	Plano, Texas
San Gabriel, California*	Detroit, Michigan*	Richardson, Texas*
San Mateo, California*	Lansing, Michigan	Newport News, Virginia
West Covina, California	Warren, Michigan	Richmond, Virginia*
Denver, Colorado	Wyoming, Michigan	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Greeley, Colorado*	Biloxi, Mississippi	
Manchester, Connecticut*	Olive Branch, Mississippi*	

**Signed proclamation for the first time*
Governors and mayors of these states and cities signed the proclamation, officially declaring November 10-15, 2014, Safety Week in their jurisdictions.

efficiently to and from their gates. Millions of passengers use the airport’s conveyances, and over the years, safety features have been enhanced. Still, it is important to remind visitors on the safe use of this equipment.”

So, PIA safety officials teamed up with Schindler again last year to educate the traveling public on safe riding. They set up an onsite exhibit, where they reached out to both passengers and employees. They handed out safety materials to adults and coloring books and crayons to children near the moving walks throughout the week. Lou DeLoreto, vice president of safety for Schindler, said, “Safety is a top priority at Schindler, and being on hand to educate passengers on safe riding behavior is extremely important.” Safety officials, TSA officials, vendors and airline employees have found that preventing injuries could be as simple as pointing out the locations of elevators to elderly passengers and other travelers struggling with heavy bags, strollers or other items.

This year’s Safety Week will take place on November 8-15. To participate, contact EESF toll free at (800) 949-7099, email Program Director Laurie Dueitt at Laurie@eesf.org or check out website www.eesf.org. Until then, EESF reminds you to “RIDE SAFELY” on:

- Elevators**
Ring alarm bell if doors do not open.
In case of fire, use stairs.
Doors closing – look out for closing doors.
Enter and exit carefully.
Escalators and Moving Walks
Shoelaces should be tied and loose clothing secured.
Attend small children.
Face forward.
Escalators are for passengers only.
Lower sides of escalators should be avoided.
You should always hold the handrail. 🌐