

# Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Local Officials To Dedicate Children's Advocacy Center** *NIFSAB Donated Residential Sprinkler System for New Facility*

ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS – The collective efforts of a number of organizations will come to fruition on Saturday, December 16 when the Children's Advocacy Center of Southwest Cook County is dedicated. Area officials are expected to tour the building at 87<sup>th</sup> Street and 79<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Justice between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

“The Children's Advocacy Center of Southwest Cook County is a reality because of the cooperation of a number of contractors and agencies,” said Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board Executive Director Tom Lia. “The Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board was able to provide sprinklers for this building with the help of FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant.”

A program of the Preparedness Directorate's Office of Grants and Training in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, grants are awarded to fire agencies to enhance their ability to protect the public and fire service personnel from fire and related hazards.

The Children's Advocacy Center is a project of the Hull House Association of Chicago and will be used as a temporary shelter. Hull House Association of Chicago is a direct descendent of the organization founded by Jane Addams in 1889.

The facility's fire sprinkler system was installed by Cybor Fire Protection, a state licensed fire sprinkler contractor. The system follows the National Fire Protection Association 13D Code Residential Sprinkler Standard. This standard addresses the design and installation of automatic sprinkler systems for protection against the fire hazards in one and two family dwellings and manufactured homes.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 83% of the 3900 fire deaths recorded annually in the United States occur in homes. Sprinklers provide the ultimate protection from fire, extinguishing a typical residential fire in less than one minute.

“The municipalities of Justice, Hickory Hills, Bedford Park, Bridgeview and Palos Hills all require that new homes be protected with residential fire sprinklers,” Lia said. “This group home will not only be a safe place because of its purpose, it will also be fire safe because of its sprinkler system,” he added.