



# State Fire Marshal's Office

PO Box 12107 | Austin, TX 78711 | 800-578-4677 | [tdi.texas.gov/fire](https://tdi.texas.gov/fire)

**Date:** December 16, 2024

**To:** The Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor  
The Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor  
The Honorable Dade Phelan, Speaker of the House  
House Committee on Insurance  
House Committee on Public Health  
Senate Committee on Business and Commerce  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**From:** Chief Debra Knight, State Fire Marshal

**Re:** Report on fire standard compliant cigarettes

In 2009, [Health and Safety Code Section 796.017](#) established fire safety standards for cigarettes sold in Texas to self-extinguish when they're not being smoked. In addition to defining sale, testing, and certification standards, the code required that all packaging include a mark to show the cigarettes are fire standard compliant.

Cigarette manufacturers must send an application for mark approval to the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO). The application must be renewed every three years.

In fiscal year 2023, SFMO processed 17 new applications and six renewals. Texas fire departments reported that cigarette smoking caused 162 structure fires and 2,145 outdoor fires.

In fiscal year 2024, SFMO processed 15 new applications and 11 renewals. Due to reporting timelines, fiscal year 2024 fire statistics on the number of structure and outdoor fires caused by cigarettes won't be available until the second quarter of fiscal year 2025.

If you have questions, contact me at [Debra.Knight@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:Debra.Knight@tdi.texas.gov) or email Kenisha Schuster, associate commissioner of Government Relations, at [Kenisha.Schuster@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:Kenisha.Schuster@tdi.texas.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Debra Knight". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "D" and "K".

Debra Knight  
State Fire Marshal  
Texas Department of Insurance