

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2016

Press Release #033016

Media Contact:

Morgan Ash, Public Information Officer

Office: (830) 386-2590

Cell: (830) 626-7166

Email: mash@seguintexas.gov



There's safety in numbers...

SEGUIN, Texas – “In our business, minutes and seconds are the difference between life and death,” said Fire Chief Dale Skinner.

If first responders can't locate where an emergency is happening, those seconds and minutes can add up quickly. Life-threatening situations can happen anytime, anywhere, but help is on the way- they just need to be able to find your address as easily as possible.

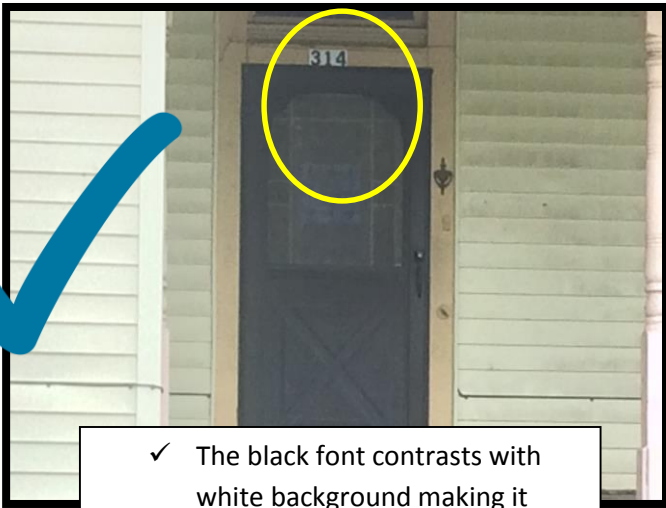
Seguin Fire Chief Dale Skinner and Police Chief Kevin Kelso both say this is a big problem when they are trying to respond to a 9-1-1 call.

“Many of our calls are high priority and having visible house numbers allows officers to quickly identify where they are to make sure they are at the correct location,” said Police Chief Kevin Kelso.

It's also the law. Recently, city council approved the 2015 version of the International Building and Fire Codes which requires all buildings (homes and businesses) to have their *approved* address number be “placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property”. The city also approved an amendment that all buildings display their address with characters no less than **six inches tall** with a minimum stroke **width of ½ inch**. Single family residences must display their address with characters no less than **4 inches tall (1/2 inch wide)**

“I encourage folks to put up reflective numbers or light them up so they are easier to see at night,” said Skinner, “We know residents get frustrated wondering why it's taking so long for the fire department to get there. However, if we can't find the right house, we also get frustrated. We know that a quick response time is critical to help our citizens when they need us.”

If you have any questions about the requirements for proper address identification, please call the building official at 830-401-2436. ###



✓ The black font contrasts with white background making it easily read.



✗ The light-colored font blends in with the color of the house. It is very hard to read.



✓ The address on the house blends in with the paint. The address painted on the large rock in front of the home is very easy to read.



✗ The front porch swing is blocking the address. It is impossible to identify the house number.