

News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Communications

Washington, D.C.

For Immediate Release
December 1, 2011
Release #12-050

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CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum Awards Her First Safety Commendations to Five Individuals and Groups

New Award Program Recognizes Exceptional Contributions to Product Safety and Saving Lives

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) announced today that Chairman Inez Tenenbaum has awarded the first Chairman’s Circle of Commendation Awards to five individuals and groups for their exceptional contributions to consumer product safety.

The new program was established to identify and honor people and organizations who have contributed in an important way to the benefit of consumers by directly and significantly reducing deaths, preventing injuries, and improving product safety.

“Consumers are safer today because of the work of these five individuals and groups,” said Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. “Each has, in their own way, pushed the envelope with safety innovations, advocacy, or product testing. Their contributions to product safety are invaluable.”



The five winners of this year’s Chairman’s Circle of Commendation Awards are:

- ***ASTM Subcommittee F15.18 on cribs, toddler beds, play yards, cradles and changing tables*** This ASTM subcommittee has been instrumental in adopting tough new voluntary safety standards for children’s nursery products, especially cribs. These standards have saved countless numbers of children’s lives and prevented serious injuries. The subcommittee’s work was crucial to the development of CPSC’s new mandatory crib standards – the strongest in the world.
- ***Nancy Cowles, Executive Director, Kids in Danger*** Nancy Cowles is a nationally-recognized leader in children’s product safety. She has been Executive Director of the Chicago-based Kids in Danger since 2001 and has worked tirelessly on behalf of children’s safety issues. Nancy is a leading voice on many voluntary standards committees working to improve the safety of children’s products and she has been quoted in media across the country on children’s safety issues.

- **Consumers Union** The expansive work of Consumers Union to test and research the safety of products has contributed to numerous recalls, helped consumers be better informed, and supported CPSC in preventing deaths and injuries. Celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, Consumers Union has provided insightful educational materials dedicated to consumer safety, including its magazines, blogs, and videos. The group advocates on behalf of consumers before CPSC and Congress and is deeply involved in the voluntary standards setting process for consumer products.

- **Dr. Gary Smith, Director, Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio** Dr. Gary Smith is a nationally-recognized pediatrician and professor of pediatrics, epidemiology, and emergency medicine at Ohio State University, who has dedicated his life to injury prevention. He has long advocated preventing injuries through design changes, educating consumers, and eliminating product hazards. Dr. Smith has appeared on numerous nationally-broadcast television shows and has been quoted in newspapers around the world.

- **Gene Rider, Intertek Inc.** Gene Rider is President of Intertek Consumer Goods, North America. He has worked for more than two decades to identify risks and improve the safety of consumer products for children. Notably, Gene has focused on preventing childhood injuries and deaths due to choking, strangulation, and aspiration hazards.

This new award program recognizes contributions to consumer product safety made by individuals, organizations, businesses, state and local governments and other groups. All nominees were reviewed by an internal CPSC staff panel that made recommendations to Chairman Tenenbaum. The final decision on the award recipients was made by the Chairman.

For more information on the award program or to forward a nomination to CPSC, visit CPSC's [website](#). The CPSC Chairman's Circle of Commendation Award is not an endorsement of any individual, organization, company, service or product.

CPSC is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death associated with the use of the thousands of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries, and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$900 billion annually. CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products—such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals—contributed to a decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

Under federal law, it is illegal to attempt to sell or resell a recalled product.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, go online to: SaferProducts.gov, call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270 for the hearing impaired. Consumers can obtain this news release and product safety information at www.cpsc.gov. To join a free e-mail subscription list, please go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx.

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