



INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
June 23, 2020

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KING: EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN USING FIREWORKS

ATLANTA – As we approach the Fourth of July holiday next week, Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King is urging residents to practice extreme caution to avoid fires and severe injuries when celebrating with fireworks.

In 2015, the sale and use of most consumer types of fireworks, which include firecrackers, skyrocketers, and Roman candles, became legal in Georgia. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, there are around 200 fireworks injuries every day during the month surrounding the Fourth of July. Each year in the U.S., around 11,000 people are treated in hospital emergency rooms for firework-related injuries.

“The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public fireworks display. However, due to COVID-19, many of the yearly celebrations have been cancelled or postponed,” said Commissioner King. “If you plan on hosting your own celebration, please be sure to follow all safety precautions with the fireworks while maintaining social distancing guidelines.”

Commissioner King offers the following fireworks safety suggestions:

- Purchase fireworks from a licensed fireworks dealer.
- Observe all state laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Read the labels carefully before igniting any fireworks.
- Ensure that an adult supervises all firework activities.
- Never allow children to ignite fireworks.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Only use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never try to relight a firework.
- Have a garden hose or bucket of water nearby.
- Use caution with animals. Excitement, noise, and lights can cause fear and stress.

To view a list of virtual fireworks displays and fun ways to celebrate at home with the kids, [click this link](#).

For more on laws governing the use of fireworks in Georgia, please contact your local police or fire department. To find a licensed fireworks dealer in your area, [visit our website](#).

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