



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
Public Information Office

07/01/2013

Media Advisory

0800 Hrs

For Immediate Release PST
Mindy Talmadge – 415 – 558-3403
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**San Francisco Fire Department
Fireworks Public Safety Announcement**

SAFE & SANE?.....NO SUCH THING!

FIREWORKS are unpredictable and dangerous, especially in the hands of amateurs.

An estimated 17,800 reported fires were started by fireworks and 9,600 fireworks-related injuries were treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms in 2011.

The harsh reality of amateur fireworks is that they cause an estimated \$20 million in property loss annually and a number of preventable burn injuries and dismemberments. More than 34% of emergency room fireworks injuries were caused by sparklers, novelties and fountains alone.

Unbeknownst to most, sparklers burn at a temperature of more than 1200 degrees Fahrenheit, a temperature hot enough to melt gold. Water boils at 212 degrees, nearly a thousand degrees cooler than sparklers burn.

Here are some tips for having a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July:

- Leave the fireworks to the professionals. Do not use consumer fireworks.
- Attend a public display fireworks show.
- Don't allow children to pick up fireworks that may be left over. They may still be active.
- Report all use of consumer fireworks to the San Francisco Police Department. Consumer Fireworks are illegal in San Francisco.

Report all fireworks to the San Francisco Police Department at 553-0123

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