

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 29, 2023

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Beth Reiss

Communications Director

[beth.reiss@mid.ms.gov](mailto:beth.reiss@mid.ms.gov)

601-359-2403

**MAKE FIREWORK SAFETY A PRIORITY THIS HOLIDAY**

**JACKSON, Miss.** – The State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFMO) encourages firework safety this Independence Day whether at home or at a firework show.

“Use common sense when shooting fireworks at home,” said State Fire Marshal and Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney. “Never point fireworks at another person and dispose of fireworks in water to prevent fire.”

You should also:

- Observe local laws.
  - Those wishing to purchase and use fireworks should first check with their fire protection officials to make sure that local laws are being followed.
  - Some municipalities prohibit fireworks from being used within city limits.
- Read and follow the directions on each firework.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Buy from reliable fireworks sellers. Store them in a cool, dry place.
- Always have an adult present when shooting fireworks.
- Put used fireworks in a bucket of water and have a hose ready.
- Only use fireworks outdoors, away from homes, dry grass, and trees.
- Light only one item at a time and keep a safe distance.
- Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks.
- Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.

The SFMO performs pyrotechnic inspections for shows performed on state-owned properties, like state parks. Pyrotechnics companies must apply for a permit for shows on state-owned property. Once received, the SFMO verifies all information pertaining to insurance, technicians, and local public safety information. Deputies must be on site for the firing of the display and clean up.

###