DC FIRE AND EMS DEPARTMENT
FIREWORK SAFETY POINTS

The DC Fire and EMS Department wants everyone to have a happy and safe July 4th Celebration, so please remember these important safety points:

1. **Don't buy or use Illegal Fireworks**

   Illegal fireworks include:
   - Any fireworks that moves or shoots a projectile
   - Any firework that explode such as firecrackers, cherry bombs, salutes, and roman candles.
   - Any Firework that emit sparks of flame greater than 12 feet.

2. **Avoid buying fireworks from individuals selling them from their personal vehicles, gym bags, or back packs.**

   Penalties for selling illegal fireworks:
   - Any person found engaging in the use or possession of illegal fireworks in the District of Columbia will have the products confiscated and could face fines and penalties starting at $2,000.

3. **Only buy Approved legal fireworks from a licensed retailer or vendor.**

   Legal fireworks include:
   - Sparklers less than 20 inches in length, torches, box fire, fountains, cones, dip sticks, paper novelty items, colored lights, and paper caps.
   - An approved legal fireworks listing can be found on FEMS website: fems.dc.gov or you can contact our Fire Marshals office at (202) 727-1614

4. **Tips on How to safely use Legal fireworks:**

   - Remember to ensure everyone is practicing social distancing.
   - Never allow children to light or play with fireworks.
   - Read and follow all warnings and instructions before use.
   - Be sure other people and structures are clear (50 feet) before lighting fireworks.
   - Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from flammable materials.
   - Use longer lighting devices (A Grill lighters is a good choice)
   - Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.
   - Keep a bucket of water in case of a malfunction or fire.

Report the use of illegal fireworks or fireworks related complaints to our Fire Marshals Office at (202) 727-1614 or email: fems.fireprevention@dc.gov