

## Fireworks Talking Points 2017

- In 2016, **4 consumers were killed and 11,100 were injured** by fireworks— among **the highest number of injuries in 15 years**.
- Three out of the four deaths involved reloadable aerial devices, a professional grade fireworks device that when used incorrectly can quickly result in tragedy.
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> is a great holiday. But, we don't want anyone's family celebration to turn into a tragedy.** July 4<sup>th</sup> should be remembered for family gatherings, not trips to the emergency room.
- CPSC annual demonstrations are not just for show. They relate to actual incidents where kids and adults were seriously injured—and even killed. Our warning today is meant to prevent deaths and injuries in the coming days.
- **As a mother of six and grandmother of 17, it pains me to read the reports of the children who have been burned and even lost a limb from incidents with sparkers, bottle rockets, and aerials.**
- The 30 days surrounding July 4<sup>th</sup> is when the majority of injuries occur. In fact, about 70% of the injuries occurred around July 4<sup>th</sup> last year.
- Most of these injuries involved sparklers, firecrackers, and bottle rockets.
- **Keep the sparklers, which can burn at 2000 degrees just like a blow torch, out of the hands of children.** We're seeing too many dangerous videos on YouTube of sparkler bombs. Wrapping together and ignited a few hundred sparklers can kill you—your life is more important than getting views on YouTube.
- **The message on illegal and professional fireworks is crystal clear:**

- **don't make them, don't purchase them, and don't go near them.**
  
- **As you light a consumer firework, follow these safety tips:**
  - **have a bucket of water or a garden hose on hand;**
  - **never relight or pick up a firework that didn't go off;**
  - **light one at a time, on a flat, dry surface; and**
  - **never have your body over the device as you are lighting the fuse.**