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INFORMATION BULLETIN

August 19, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Use of Consumer (Class C) Fireworks

In the past several months the State Fire Marshal's Office has experienced an increased number of calls and/or complaints on the use of consumer grade (Class C) fireworks during public events.

Public events could include but are not limited to the following: July 4<sup>th</sup> or New Years celebrations, weddings, graduations, athletic events such as pep rallies, football games, baseball games, etc.

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information on the proper use of consumer (Class C) fireworks products during public events in accordance with state law.

Consumer (Class C) Fireworks products are those that are purchased from a properly licensed retail location within the State of Alabama. The products must be properly packaged and labeled as DOT Class C Consumer Fireworks. Products should be used properly and safely. Homemade products are not allowed and violate state law.

Alabama Law states the following.

**Section 8-17-222**

“It shall be unlawful to offer for sale or to sell any fireworks to children under the age of 16 years unless accompanied by an adult or to any intoxicated or irresponsible person. Any person purchasing fireworks shall be required to show a valid driver’s license or state approved identification card. *It shall be unlawful to explode or ignite fireworks within 600 feet of any church, hospital, asylum, public school, any enclosed building, or within 200 feet or where fireworks are stored, sold, or offered for sale.* No person shall ignite or discharge any permissible articles of fireworks within or throw the same from a motor vehicle while within nor shall any person place or throw any ignited article of fireworks into or at such a motor vehicle, or at or near any person or group of people.”

To paraphrase (summarize) this section of the fireworks law; there will need to be a minimum of 600 feet of distance (clearance) from buildings (all), public roadways and people.

**Section 8-17-224**

“Any individual, firm, partnership or corporation that violates any provisions of this article other than Section 8-17-218 shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not less than 30 days, or more than, one year or both, in the discretion of the court.”

It's recommended that any group or entity that elects to hold or sponsor a public fireworks event using Consumer (Class C) Firework products consider the following; check the ordinances of the jurisdiction to ensure that it is permissible to purchase, possess and use fireworks locally, notify the local public safety authorities (law enforcement and fire) and make them aware of the event, location/date/time.

Should anyone have questions or need clarification do not hesitate to contact our office.

Safety for the citizens of the State of Alabama is our principal concern.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Scott F. Pilgreen  
State Fire Marshal