

[Home](#) / NJ Department of Labor Cautions Public, Storeowners on the Dangers and Illegality of Igniting Fireworks Ahead of Independence Day

# NJ Department of Labor Cautions Public, Storeowners on the Dangers and Illegality of Igniting Fireworks Ahead of Independence Day

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2023

**TRENTON** – The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOL) is reminding residents that the purchase or sale of fireworks is not only dangerous, but illegal under New Jersey law.

“We understand that everyone associates fireworks with the Fourth of July, but for safety's sake, setting off fireworks is best left up to the trained professionals,” said Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo. “Every year, far too many people are needlessly injured, and occasionally, fatally wounded, in fireworks mishaps. Fireworks are not only dangerous – they are against the law in New Jersey.”

New Jersey’s fireworks laws (N.J.S.A. 21:2-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 21:3-1 et seq.) are enforced by NJDOL’s Division of Public Safety & Occupational Safety & Health, which conducted 19 inspections of entertainment shows using fireworks in 2022 to ensure proper licensing and oversight.

According to the [United States Consumer Product Safety Commission](#), three-quarters of 2021 fireworks-related injuries occurred in the weeks immediately before and after Independence Day. The same year, the most recent for which there is information available, there were an estimated 11,500 emergency room-treated injuries involving fireworks.

For more information on New Jersey's fireworks laws, visit [https://nj.gov/labor/safetyandhealth/resources-support/laws-regulations/fireworksact\\_sale.shtml](https://nj.gov/labor/safetyandhealth/resources-support/laws-regulations/fireworksact_sale.shtml)

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Home

### File or Access Your Claim

Temporary Disability Insurance  
Family Leave Insurance  
Maternity Leave  
Unemployment Insurance  
Social Security Disability

### Worker Protections

Your Rights at Work  
Workers' Compensation  
Safety and Health  
Wage & Hour Compliance  
Paid Sick Leave

## Career Support

Career Services

Training Provider Information

## Employer Services

Employer Accounts

Employer Self-Service (NLx)

Layoffs and Closings

Wage & Hour Compliance

Business Support

Apprenticeship

Industry Partnerships

Employer Poster Packet

## Research & Information

Labor Market Information

Center for Occupational Employment

Information (COEI)

Grant Opportunities

Workforce Innovation &

Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Legal Notices

Press Releases

## About Us

## Statewide

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NJ Home

Services A to Z

Departments/Agencies

Contact Us

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