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/ Ahead of America’s 250th Birthday: NJ Department of Labor Reminds Residents and Shopkeepers That the Unpermitted Use and Sale of Fireworks Are Illegal Under State Law

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2026

TRENTON – As New Jerseyans prepare to celebrate America's 250th anniversary this Fourth of July, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOL) is reminding residents that the unpermitted use, purchase, and manufacturing of fireworks are not only dangerous but also illegal under New Jersey law. Shopkeepers and businesses should also be aware that the unlicensed selling of fireworks in New Jersey is prohibited.

Under state law, only permitted or registered companies and organizations can manufacture, purchase, use, and sell fireworks.

“As we commemorate our nation’s historic milestone this Fourth of July weekend, we want to remind everyone to celebrate responsibly,” said **Acting Labor Commissioner Kevin D. Jarvis**. “The use of fireworks is illegal under state law and, for the safety of our families and our communities, should be left to trained professionals.”

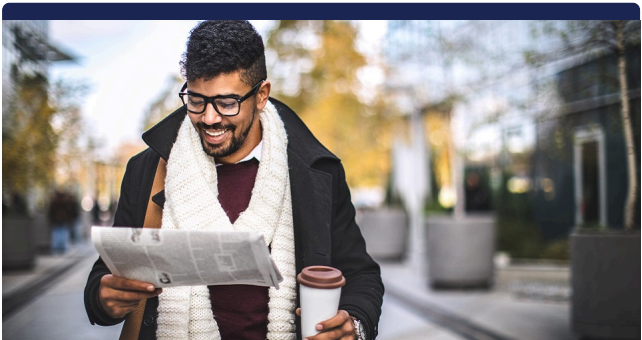
New Jersey’s fireworks laws (N.J.S.A. 21:2-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 21:3-1 et seq.) are enforced by NJDOL's Division of Public Safety & Occupational Safety & Health. In 2025, the Division conducted 23 inspections of entertainment shows that use fireworks to ensure proper licensing and oversight. The Division also monitors New Jersey’s retail establishments to ensure compliance with the state ban on the unlicensed and uncertified use of fireworks.

Nationally, fireworks pose serious risks. According to the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, there were 15 reported fireworks-related deaths in 2025, most involving misuse and device misfires and malfunctions. An estimated 13,000 people were injured by fireworks last year alone, with an additional 1,300 sparkler-related injuries requiring emergency room treatment.

For more information on New Jersey's fireworks laws, visit: https://nj.gov/labor/safetyandhealth/resources-support/laws-regulations/fireworksact_sale.shtml

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Department of Labor and Workforce Development
1 John Fitch Plaza
Trenton, NJ 08625