



## California State Fire Marshal Information Bulletin 12-06

Issued: June 26, 2012

### GUIDANCE FOR SAFE HANDLING AND STORAGE OF SEIZED FIREWORKS

Health and Safety Code delegates the CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) the responsibility for the destruction of dangerous and illegal fireworks upon seizure by local fire departments and law enforcement agencies. The following procedure should be followed for handling and storage of dangerous fireworks seized by public safety agencies throughout California.

1. Wear cotton; avoid static producing clothing when handling fireworks.
2. Turn off radios, cell phones, and other electronic devices while working around energetic material.
3. Inventory, randomly sample, and photograph seized fireworks.
4. The following items ***SHALL NOT BE INCLUDED*** with the seized fireworks:
  - a. Explosives devices, ammunition and unclassified or suspicious devices - Call your local Bomb Squad immediately.
  - b. Trash (including expended fireworks).
  - c. Lighters and/or matches.
  - d. Non-fireworks related evidence or contraband (weapons, drugs, paraphernalia, etc.)
  - e. Friction initiated fireworks such as Snap Caps, Party Poppers, etc.
5. Separate "Safe and Sane" fireworks from public display aerial shells and/or dangerous/illegal fireworks.
6. Leave fireworks in the original Department of Transportation (DOT) shipping cartons. Do not re-package in another box or container.

7. Place loose fireworks in quality cardboard boxes such as banker boxes, photocopy paper boxes, or similar size moving boxes with functional lids.  
***(Fireworks will not be accepted as loose items in bags, or in boxes that are torn or crushed.)***
8. The boxes shall be labeled with the following information: type of fireworks, agency name, name of person responsible for the sorting, and date.
9. Do not store fireworks in occupied buildings, work spaces, utility rooms, or near incompatible materials. Store fireworks in a storage building, trailer, semitrailer, metal shipping container or magazine.
10. Fireworks storage areas shall be maintained in a neat and orderly manner.
11. Complete an OSFM Fireworks Seizure Information form (attached) and email to [fwx@fire.ca.gov](mailto:fwx@fire.ca.gov).
12. CAL FIRE – OSFM representative will contact you to schedule a date/time to collect the fireworks.

For further information contact the Fireworks Program at [fwx@fire.ca.gov](mailto:fwx@fire.ca.gov)

For information regarding the Fireworks Program, please visit our Web site at:

<https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/fire-engineering-and-investigations/fireworks/>



# OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

## FIREWORKS SEIZURE INFORMATION

Please e-mail completed form to:

[fwx@fire.ca.gov](mailto:fwx@fire.ca.gov)

AGENCY NAME:	AGENCY PHONE	DATE:
AGENCY ADDRESS:	CITY:	ZIP CODE:
INTERNET EMAIL ADDRESS:	SUBMITTED BY:	PHONE NUMBER:

**Health & Safety Code Section 12723 requires the authority seizing any fireworks under the provisions of this chapter to notify the State Fire Marshal not more than three days following the date of seizure. The following questions need to be addressed:**

DATE OF SEIZURE:	REASON FOR SEIZURE [H&S 12721]:	
TYPE OF FIREWORKS [H&S 12722]: <b>*Safe-n-Sane</b> [TITLE 19 986.6]	GROSS WEIGHT:	LOCATION OF STORED FIREWORKS:
DATE OF SEIZURE:	REASON FOR SEIZURE [H&S 12721]:	
TYPE OF FIREWORKS [H&S 12722]: <b>Dangerous</b> [H&S 12505]	GROSS WEIGHT:	LOCATION OF STORED FIREWORKS:

***\*INCLUDES SNAP CAPS AND PARTY POPPERS***

**Any fireworks seized by any authority shall be held in trust for the State Fire Marshal. Revised 07/15/2020**