



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Burn Prevention Network kicks off fireworks safety campaign to prevent injury in the state of Pennsylvania

Allentown, PA — Local non-profit the Burn Prevention Network came together with leaders including Senator Pat Browne, State Fire Commissioner Bruce Trego, the Allentown Fire Department, and the American Pyrotechnics Safety & Education Foundation today to address the recent increase in fireworks-related injuries across the state through the launch of statewide consumer fireworks public safety campaign, *Celebrate Safely, PA!*

“Sale of consumer fireworks have more than doubled in the US between 2019 and 2020.” stated Dan Dillard, CEO of the Burn Prevention Network. “During that same period, fireworks-related injuries have increased by nearly 50%!”

Fireworks-related injuries increased nationwide from 9,992 in 2019 to 15,646 in 2020. The harmful effects extend to property as well; Over \$125M in property damage from fireworks was reported in 2020.

“Every year, improper handling and illegal usage of fireworks results in severe bodily harm and damage to property,” Senator Pat Browne said. “Taking simple preventative measures can greatly reduce the risk of harm to you, your friends and loved ones. With July Fourth around the corner, as you celebrate the birth of our nation, please do so thoughtfully and safely for everyone's protection. I am pleased to partner with the Burn Prevention Network in furthering their vital mission and provide funding for this important awareness campaign.”

The *Celebrate Safely, PA!* campaign includes a robust media campaign that will run throughout upcoming weeks leading up to July Fourth, in addition to the circulation of video and audio PSAs advocating fireworks safety. The campaign is bolstered by 250,000 fireworks safety flyers distributed at the point-of-sale of fireworks at retailers throughout the Commonwealth.

About the Burn Prevention Network

The Burn Prevention Network is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization currently serving 22 counties throughout Eastern Pennsylvania. Our mission is to provide burn injury prevention education, materials, and advocacy throughout North America.

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