



**Department
of Commerce**

Division of State Fire Marshal



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 26, 2013

For more information:

Prevent Blindness Ohio, Stacie Lehman: 614-464-2020 ext. 119

Cell: 419-356-1401; staciel@pbohio.org

Ohio Department of Commerce, Michael Duchesne: 614.752-7179

Michael.Duchesne@com.state.oh.us

Child Injury Prevention Alliance, Dr. Gary Smith: 614-398-2472

Gary.Smith@ChildInjuryPreventionAlliance.org

FIREWORKS SAFETY NEWS CONFERENCE

Latest Fireworks Injury Data & Forecast for Fireworks Season Released

Columbus, OH – New information on the dangers of fireworks during this year's Independence Day season will be released at a news conference held on Thursday, June 27, 2013. State Fire Marshal Larry Flowers will have direction for Ohioans during these dry weather conditions across most of Ohio. The 2012 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Fireworks Injury Report will also be released. In 2011, an estimated 9,600 people were sent to the emergency room for treatment of fireworks-related injuries and an estimated 6,200 were treated during a one month period around the Fourth of July Holiday. Speakers will caution and educate Ohioans about the dangers of backyard fireworks.

*Note: There will also be live demonstrations illustrating the dangers of backyard fireworks.
All media are invited.*

WHO: Prevent Blindness Ohio, Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of State Fire Marshal, Child Injury Prevention Alliance, and the Ohio Eye Care Coalition

WHAT: Fireworks Safety News Conference

WHEN: Thursday, June 27, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: State Fire Marshal's Office, Ohio Fire Academy
8895 E. Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 43068

SPEAKERS:

- The Honorable Betty Montgomery, Chair, Board of Directors, Prevent Blindness Ohio
- Dr. Gary Smith, President, Child Injury Prevention Alliance
- Larry Flowers, State Fire Marshal, Ohio Department of Commerce
- Sherry Williams, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness Ohio

Prevent Blindness Ohio's message about fireworks safety is made possible by partnerships with American Electric Power and Essilor of America.

###