

To What Lengths will the go.....

To bury the truth about Fireworks? The CPSC is in charge of the Federally Mandated Annual Fireworks Safety Reports.

In the past, I have been restrained enough to simply state they (the CPSC), had been burying reports (the understatement of the year). I have gotten fairly proficient on the keywords used to search for them and usually have them now pretty quickly. The problem here is two-fold. People won't often take the time or make the effort to search for things but the CPSC knows that. Also the CPSC assumes that if it's on their site, no matter how deeply it's buried, that everyone has found it - but the CPSC really knows that's not true. The latest report I have found is the 2014 Fireworks Annual Report and that was in 2015. They have since redesigned their website (again - at taxpayer's expense) evidently to make it even LESS User-friendly and/or accessible.

So; in the interest of making these easier to find for all, I've compiled them here, on our website @ <http://www.iowapyro.com/government-reports.html> .

In my last exercise in sheer frustration on their "new and improved" site, I used the precise wordings in my searches that the ATF has used for the past 6+ decades. I suppose it's house-cleaning, but some of the files that were there, are simply not there anymore.

In part, for the past decade or so, we have used their own published Reports against them quite effectively. The reason we have been so successful in getting the truth out of these reports is that statements of fact such as these were gleaned from these past reports:

- "Fireworks Injuries in the United States Account for only .01% of ALL Non-Fatal Injuries"
- Each Hospital in the U.S. Treats approximately one Firework-related Injury *per year* (6,000+ Hospitals). In contrast there are 205 Car Accident and 82 Bicycle-related Injuries *PER DAY* at each Hospital.

And;

- "If you listen to some Anti-Fireworks groups, you would be lead to believe Fireworks are the leading cause of Fireworks-related Injury in the United States. The 2000 CPSC report on product-related injuries lists numerous heat-producing products with greater injury estimates than Fireworks."

I guess, I should look upon it as somewhat a victory though. We have been SO successful in exposing their lies, that they felt it of the utmost urgency to hide these reports from the American People.

So I guess, until one of these so-truth-inspiring reports can actually shows how "deadly" this product we collectively call "fireworks" is, from my research of these Reports, I can only surmise that:

- An average 6 (SIX) to 10 people die PER YEAR from Fireworks mishaps.
- An average 6,000 to 10,000 people are injured PER YEAR from Fireworks mishaps.
- Of ALL Fireworks mishaps; almost ALL are self-inflicted.
- Of ALL Fireworks mishaps; almost ALL involve Alcohol, an infraction of Law(s), or some type of Firework alteration/misuse.
- In pouring over 60+ years of US Government Provided Data, ONE instance could have been attributed to an actual malfunction of a Fireworks Device (and that device was then mis-classified by the US Government "Experts").
- Firework "Accidents" causing both Injuries & Deaths, have ALWAYS routinely included deaths to innocents whose only "Fault" was to be present when the Fireworks were lit.
- Not many (if any) product tracked by CPSC can match Firework's record of Safety.
- The CPSC'S Annual Reports routinely include:
 - Car Accidents at Fireworks Displays.
 - People not involved in any way, but viewing Fireworks.
 - People not even aware that Fireworks had been used at all.
 - Forest Fires, House Fires, Other Building Fires, Car Fires, (You get the idea).
 - Anything and Everything that could possibly be "Fireworks-Related" is used.

No matter how Ridiculous/Far Fetched, we have never disputed any claim of the Government's, yet the SUM TOTAL of Deaths the Government can claim to be "Fireworks-Related" stands at less than 400 people, added together from more than 60 years of Data Collection. Lightning strikes injure and/or kill an average 238 People PER YEAR in the U.S., so in contrast, you are 6.5 times more likely to be struck by lightning as being involved in a "Fireworks-Related" incident in any given year in the U.S. (2,496/384 or 64 years of Lightning Strikes / 64 years of Fireworks Deaths).

So how Dare I, a lowly, amateur, Fireworks Enthusiast, possibly say all these nasty and arguably damning things about our all-powerful, all-knowing U.S. Government? The answer is simple: because the Government is lying to you. I dare anyone connected to the Government to make the case that Fireworks are "Dangerous". Yes, Fireworks can kill you. Yes, Fireworks cause injuries. ANYTHING expressly made to explode will do that. I have maintained, do maintain, and to my dying breath will maintain, that when used AS DIRECTED, AS PER INDUSTRY/ACCEPTED HOBBYIST STANDARDS, that barring some either inadvertent, or intentional mistake by someone involved (ie, "an accident", or ignorance), that Fireworks always have been, and will continue to be - safe.

A gun - by design - will injure or kill. Should we then as a society ban all guns? This debate will ultimately be answered one day but our Constitution says no. Automobiles, while not designed to injure, main, or kill - do. Millions of Americans - EACH YEAR - are thus impacted by cars. Should we as a Society ban all cars? An argument based on common necessity says no - easily - here.

So then, what is it about Fireworks that make them SO abhorrent, that they need such strict regulation up to the point of (by the CPSC's own admission), complete banishment? Fireworks give the user a "thrill" in their use. Great anticipation, excitement, beauty, and joy. Like with a Gun however, you have to use them correctly. Millions worldwide, "ooh and awe" to their beauty and light. Looking forward to next year's Display, or the next Special Occasion/Event/Holiday calling for such Displays. Thousands of Hobbyists travel hundreds, or thousands of miles per year to buy, transport, use, watch, and/or shoot Fireworks. If ANY of these products (Guns/Cars/Fireworks) were banned, do you believe for an instant that these would not become available on the black market, or that a hand-made variety of them could not be found easily?

Only a fool (or some other Government Official), could possibly answer yes to any of the previous questions. Could we as a Society live without Fireworks? Absolutely. Will we? No. Someone (now that the knowledge is out there), will always make Fireworks. For proof just look back to a little experiment the Government ran back in the 1930s colloquially known as Prohibition. As with Prohibition, literally hundreds of Commonly-found, Household items, can be employed to home make Fireworks. A simple trip to any Grocery, anywhere, will yield dozens of components to use. A hardware store - hundreds of Components. A Big-box Lumberyard? Probably a thousand or better. A Feed and Grain? Oh boy! The Coffee Creamer you drink each day goes up in a very satisfactory fireball type effect, as does hundreds of other easily obtainable items. Think someone won't make their own?

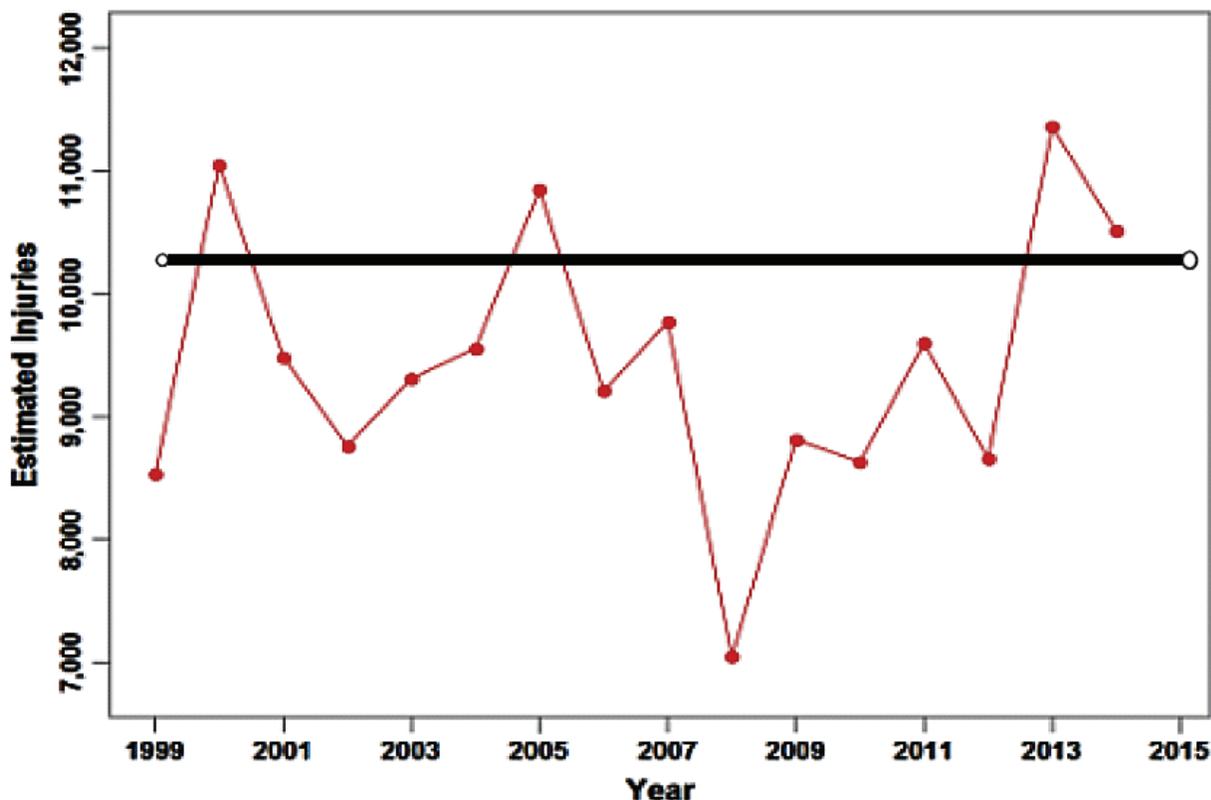
So, our Government which is supposed to be OF, BY and FOR "The People", now has the temerity and unmitigated gall to tell us where, when, and how we will, or will not use these, what we can and cannot own where it comes to items that could be put together (the Feds simply assume (think ASS U ME), that you intend to build these devices), and so; it claims to the right to imprison us if we DARE have these items in our homes because they KNOW how we intend to use them (which raises the dark specter of the thought police in George Orwells' 1984).

Government has kinda gotten out of hand in a lot of ways. In my "real life", I am a State-licensed, Private Security Guard for a Nationally known company at a Distribution Center. I check hundreds of OTR, and Long-Haul Truckers in/out of the Facility each day, and I am an ex-driver. Having dealt with both sides of the Government's DOT, I know that ANY truck - no matter how new - can be found "defective" and not roadworthy (In fact, In 1978 I was once told this exact thing by a DOT Enforcement Official as my two-week old truck was being inspected at a weigh station). I was lucky, and I "only" got two tickets that time. One was a "fix-it" ticket on a truck with less than 7,000 miles on it.

This same principle is now being employed against Shooters (both professional and amateur), Clubs, Distributors/Re-sellers, Manufacturers of devices and equipment, Display Companies, and this propaganda extends to an on-going campaign of the misinformation concerning Fireworks Safety to the General Public that is underway by our officials. Nice - huh?

Below is a chart (again from the CPSC), showing the injury statistics attributed to Fireworks by the CPSC for the 16-year period of 1999-2015, their original chart (found in the 2014 Annual Fireworks Report). The chart has been overlaid (in black), with those figures averaged over those 16 years. Figured on the high side (post 1996), the average is 10,200 per year.

Figure 1
Estimated Fireworks-Related, Emergency Department-Treated Injuries
1999-2014



Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Again, even not arguing their own figures, their case collapses under the weight of facts. Very few (if any product tracked by the CPSC), can meet this level of Safety (not even pencils which they claim causes more than 44,000 injuries per year).

As long as they try to push this, we will always pull back the veil to reveal the truth.