

121 W. Broadway St.  
Prosper, TX 75078



# NEWS RELEASE

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Celso Martinez, 972-623-8836

June 22, 2010

## Prosper Police Department urges caution over holiday weekend

### *Possession and use of fireworks illegal in Prosper*

PROSPER (June 22, 2010) Celebrating the Independence Day holiday is a tradition deeply seated throughout the U.S. as families take time to enjoy cookouts, water sports and fireworks displays. That tradition is certainly present in homes throughout Prosper where warm weather, sunny skies and open spaces provide excellent backdrops for picnics and outings. Every year, though, a number of children and adults in the area are injured or killed as a result of playing with fireworks, excessive drinking or driving a car or boat under the influence of alcohol, according to Prosper Chief of Police Kirk McFarlin.

In addition to injuries, illegal fireworks cause thousands of dollars in damage to property each year. Homes, farms, crops and livestock are consumed by flash fires. Vehicle crashes and boating mishaps account for hundreds of injuries and even loss of life. A large percentage of these are caused by alcohol-impaired operators. These preventable incidents can quickly turn a holiday into a time of sorrow for the victims and their families.

“Preventing these incidents and accidents is the reasoning behind the fireworks ban within the limits of the Town of Prosper. And, of course, it is always illegal to drive a motor vehicle or boat while under the influence of any substance that interferes with the safe operation of that vehicle,” said Chief McFarlin.

“We know people do not intend to get hurt or hurt someone else, but it happens almost every year. And, it’s good to remember that enablers are just as guilty. If you stand idly by or allow someone to drink and drive or allow children to play with fireworks, you bear a large part of the responsibility for the consequences,” he added.

The holiday is a time of remembrance of the birth of one the world’s most influential nations. It’s a time to be with family and friends and be thankful for the many freedoms and blessings we enjoy. But with that also comes some responsibility.

“Using common sense, good judgment and taking personal responsibility during this holiday season is not just sound advice, it is the reason we are celebrating in the first place,” said McFarlin.

-more-

“Please be safe this summer and enjoy the Independence Day holiday responsibly. Most area communities have firework displays that can be enjoyed without having to spend the money or risk the injury of setting off fireworks ourselves. Take advantage of these opportunities, as they are a much safer and inexpensive way to enjoy fireworks,” he advised.

Fireworks displays will occur on July 3 at the Frisco Municipal Plaza and Addison Circle Park, and on July 4 at the McKinney Soccer Complex at Craig Ranch, Vista Ridge Mall in Lewisville and on the campus of UNT in Denton. Other public fireworks displays are also scheduled. Check listings online or in area papers.

###

**ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER** – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 9,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 90,000 residents, Prosper’s vision is to remain a “Place Where Everyone Matters.”