



City of McKinney Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information, Please Call:

Anna Folmsbee

City of McKinney

afolmsb@mckinneytexas.org

972-547-7525

Fireworks prohibited within city limits of McKinney

McKINNEY, Texas (June 29, 2010) – As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, the McKinney Fire Department urges residents to enjoy fireworks safely, by attending locally sanctioned fireworks shows like McKinney's Red, White and BOOM! celebration, presented by professionals who adhere to safety codes.

Possession, storage, sale, handling and use of fireworks is prohibited within the city limits of McKinney. Illegal fireworks include any device designed for the purpose of producing a visible and audible effect by ignition with a match or other heat-producing device. Sparklers, fire crackers and roman candles are examples of illegal fireworks. Fireworks found within the city limits of McKinney will be immediately confiscated, and violators could be fined up to \$2,000 for each offense.

The U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reported that in 2008 there were seven deaths associated with fireworks related incidents in the United States, and they estimated 7,000 people were treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with fireworks. More than half the injuries were burns involving hands, fingers, eyes and legs.

"Fireworks safety is not a supervision issue. A fireworks injury happens in the blink of an eye, whether or not a parent or other responsible adult is present. The safest way to enjoy fireworks is at special events, like Red, White and BOOM!" said Fire Chief Mark Wallace.

For additional information, visit www.mckinneyfire.org.

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About McKinney

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., McKinney has a current population of 127,000. Incorporated in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers rolling hills, lush trees, a historic downtown square and unique neighborhoods and developments, and it was recently ranked as one of the Top 10 Best Places to Move by Forbes Magazine. Visit the city's Web site at www.mckinneytexas.org.