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California State Fire Marshal Informational Bulletin

Classification of Snap Caps and Party Poppers

Recently an issue came up in regards to the sale, process and use of State Fire Marshal (SFM) classified and approved "Party Poppers" and "Snap Caps". We want to provide you with some clarification regarding this issue.

"Party Poppers" and "Snap Caps" are classified by the SFM as a "pyrotechnic device" in accordance with state fireworks laws and regulations. These pyrotechnic devices should not be confused with other fireworks devices such as "Dangerous Fireworks" or "Safe and Sane Fireworks" within the same laws and regulations. These devices are not regulated as "Dangerous" or "Safe and Sane" fireworks. In absence of a local ordinance specifically prohibiting the sale, possession, and/or use by the public of any "Party Popper" and "Snap Cap", these products cannot be prohibited from sale or use throughout California.

Should you require further information regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact Supervising Deputy Pat Sanchez at (916) 445-8415.