



**S. C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation  
Division of Fire and Life Safety  
Office of State Fire Marshal  
141 Monticello Trail  
Columbia, SC 29203**

**S.C. Pyrotechnic Safety Laws Updated**

On June 1, 2010, the new Pyrotechnic Safety Statute S.454 became effective. This statute now adequately supports the Board of Pyrotechnic Safety Regulations (Document 3184) 71-7405.8-71-7405.8 which became effective February 2, 2009.

Previous changes of significance to the Board of Pyrotechnic Safety and the requirements concerning the manufacturing, storage and sale of consumer fireworks occurred in the mid 1960's. As there are too many changes to itemize, I would recommend you review both legislative documents, as well as NFPA 1124. With the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday less than a month away, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is on the fast track providing administrative and logistical assistance to the Pyrotechnic Safety Board.

The passage of S.454 increases the composition of the Board of Pyrotechnic Safety to seven (7) members and places certain responsibilities on the Board. The initial license application and application for renewals may be approved only after an authorized agent of the Board inspects the building and facilities where fireworks are to be manufactured, sold or stored for compliance with the current codes and standards. In the interest of consistency and safety, the authorized agents of the Board, at this time, will be OSFM personnel. The statute also states that a fire chief and a chief's inspector, a sheriff and a sheriff's deputy, a chief of police and a chief's officer, and an agent of SLED may inspect a building, facility or vehicle where fireworks may be manufactured, stored or sold and records of manufacturing, stored, or sold and records of manufacturing, storage, sales, and purchases that must be maintained.. This will provide a dual path of fire and life safety from licensing, to the operational phase of the business.

Passage of the updated regulations regarding the sale of consumer fireworks update and remove potential conflicts with Federal ATF regulations and current building and life safety codes. The requirements of NFPA 1124, 2006 Edition, including annex A,B,C and D now constitute the minimum standards for manufacturing, storage and retail sales of all fireworks and pyrotechnic articles used in South Carolina, except as modified in the regulations. The regulations that established new licensing and permitting fees through SCLLR, further designate the Board of Pyrotechnic Safety as the remedy for disputes arising from such regulations.

If you are interested in promoting the safety of the public and the environment by effective regulation of pyrotechnics, there are currently numerous vacancies on the Pyrotechnic Safety Board. If you desire to represent one of those described entities, please forward a letter of intention to the Pyrotechnic Safety Board, 141 Monticello Trail, Columbia, 29203.

Please direct any questions or comments to Administrative Assistant Barbara Foster or Fire Marshal John Reich at 803-896-9801.