



For Immediate Release

Contacts: Rivian Bell, (213) 612-4927, (888) 477-4319 (24/7), rbell@jdipr.com
Paula Valle, (213) 612-4927, pvalle@jdipr.com

CHILDREN'S BURN FOUNDATION ISSUES 4TH OF JULY FIREWORK SAFETY TIPS

**Foundation to Participate in Los Angeles County Fire Department supported
4th of July Press Conference to Take Place at,
Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center, Los Angeles, 10 a.m., Wed., June 25**

SHERMAN OAKS, Calif. – June 24, 2008 – The Children's Burn Foundation, which provides the expertise and programs to prevent pediatric burns and to heal severely burned children, will release its annual 4th of July Firework Burn Prevention Guidelines Wed., June 25, at the Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County Fire Department's 4th of July Anti-Fireworks Press Conference.

In 2006, sparklers accounted for **one-third** of the injuries to children less than five years of age; **one-third** of the people injured were children under 15 years of age, while the risk of fireworks-related injuries was **two-and-a-half** times as high for children ages 10-14 as for the general population. Mindful of these facts, the Children's Burn Foundation has developed firework burn prevention guidelines for parents and caregivers to ensure that children have a safe 4th of July.

"Despite the obvious dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks, which include potential blindness, third degree burns, permanent scarring, and even death," said **Barbara Friedman**, executive director of the Children's Burn Foundation. "As children and teens are more likely to be injured than adults while using fireworks, the Foundation wants to remind parents to keep all fireworks away from children, including sparklers, which can heat up to temperatures hot enough to melt gold."

Friedman went on to state that, "**the safest way to prevent fireworks-related injuries is to leave fireworks displays to trained professionals.**"

If a child suffers burns from a sparkler or other firework, the first step is to immediately apply cool water (not cold water or ice) for approximately 20 minutes and then cover the burn with a clean, dry cloth. If the burn is larger than a person's hand, to the face or genitals or is gray and leathery the child should then be taken to the nearest emergency room or urgent care center.

-MORE-

CBF 4th of July - 2-2-2

The 4th of July Anti-Fireworks Press Conference will take place tomorrow at the Los Angeles Fire Department Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center on Stadium Way at 10:00 a.m.

Friedman will be on hand with representatives from the Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County Fire Departments, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and the Grossman Burn Center to educate the public on fireworks dangers and safety in an effort to reduce the number of injuries and property loss caused by fireworks.

About the Children's Burn Foundation:

Since 1985, the Sherman Oaks, CA-based Children's Burn Foundation has served children in Southern California and around the world to provide state-of-the-art reconstructive treatment, psychological and social services and wonderful camp experiences to help young burn survivors heal. The Foundation's highly acclaimed prevention programs have taught more than a quarter of a million Angelenos and their families how to prevent burns. The Foundation provides prevention and education programs to nearly 65,000 children and families annually. For more information, visit www.childburn.org.

#