



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Celso Martinez, 972-623-8836

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## Fireworks remain outlawed within Prosper town limits *Public safety at the center of officials' concern*

PROSPER (June 15, 2017) Fire officials around the country are in general agreement that towns and cities which curtail the use of retail fireworks within their neighborhoods see a major reduction in fires, property damage, and personal injury.

"It stands to reason," says Prosper Fire Marshal Bryan Ausenbaugh. "Every year throughout the country, the careless and often illegal use of fireworks results in tragic consequences. Municipalities that pass ordinances related to this issue see far fewer incidences."

Nationwide, preventable tragedies mount during the Independence Day holiday. While merchants strategically set up retail fireworks sales stands where allowed by law, it is not legal to have possession of these items within Prosper. And, of course, the use of fireworks, whether or not purchased by the user, is also strictly prohibited.

Ordinance #00-13 makes it a misdemeanor offense to possess or discharge fireworks inside the Town limits and within the extra-territorial jurisdiction. The only fireworks allowed in Prosper are those set off by professionals with a valid permit, an inspection and proof of a bond.

The restrictions on the possession and use of fireworks are in the interest of protection of property and personal safety.

"If a person or persons are found in violation of this ordinance, they may be issued a citation," added Ausenbaugh, a certified peace officer in the State of Texas as well as the Town's fully-qualified Fire Marshal. "They will then be required to appear in Municipal Court, and if found guilty, could face fines of up to \$2,000 for each offense."

The Town of Prosper is a cosponsor of the annual Pride in the Sky event at Frontier Park on Saturday, July 1, which culminates in a sanctioned fireworks display. The free event begins at 5 p.m. and the fireworks will occur shortly before 10 p.m.

"The members of the Prosper Fire Department wish everyone a safe and happy holiday, and refraining from fireworks will help ensure that," concluded Ausenbaugh.

Contact the Fire Department at 972-346-9469 or visit [www.prospertx.gov](http://www.prospertx.gov) to view the fireworks ordinance.

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**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 17,800 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 70,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."