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Missouri State Fire Marshal Enforcing Fireworks Safety

(KTNC) - This is a noisy time of year, and sometimes a dangerous one, when thousands of people go into the explosives business for a few weeks.

In Missouri, about 1400 fireworks stands get seasonal business permits during the July 4th holiday period. State Fire Marshall Randy Cole has seventeen inspectors and fifteen investigators who check as many of those stands as possible to make sure they're safely selling legal products. (play audio :29 "business")

Cole says he and his officers look into several safety factors at each location. (play audio :34 "footage")

People in some states surrounding Missouri head to the state more than usual at this time of year, as Missouri allows some fireworks to be sold that aren't available elsewhere. Cole says those visitors run some risks when they bring their business to Missouri border fireworks stands. (play audio :31 "well.")

Cole says his investigators seldom find anything illegal.

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