



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 1, 2010

Contact: Sheila Boxley
(916) 244-1921

Firework Injuries Skyrocket

The Child Abuse Prevention Center offers tips for a safe holiday weekend.

SACRAMENTO — The Child Abuse Prevention Center has prepared the following Firework Safety tips to help area families enjoy a safe and fun Fourth of July weekend.

In 2008, children under the age of 14 accounted for 2,000 (40%) of firework-related injuries (U.S. Consumer and Product Safety Commission) — but following these basic firework safety tips will reduce the risk of injury:

- Children should never play with or ignite fireworks.
- Never wear loose fitting clothing when handling or standing by fireworks.
- Always read directions and never re-light or re-position fireworks once lit.
- Use common sense and keep a safe distance— fireworks are not toys.
- Light only one firework or sparkler at a time, and never have any portion of your body directly over a firework while lighting.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially a glass or metal container.
- Always have an adult present to ensure safety— parents are also liable for any damage or injuries caused by their children using fireworks.

“Summer is a very dangerous time for children based on injury and accident statistics, so we wanted to share ways to prevent these injuries,” said Child Abuse Prevention Center President and CEO Sheila Boxley. “Ensuring our kids are safe — even while they’re having fun — is the most important thing.”

About the Child Abuse Prevention Center: Located in Sacramento, California, the Child Abuse Prevention Center is a 24,000 square-foot state-of-the-art training, resource and administrative facility. The CAP Center’s mission is to prevent child abuse, neglect and abandonment.

#