



# Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

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## News Release

For Immediate Release  
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Date: July 2, 2024

### **Sheriff Urges Public to Celebrate Fourth of July Safely with Legal Fireworks; Leave Aerial Shows to the Professionals**

**Pueblo, CO:** If you are planning to celebrate the Fourth of July with fireworks, please use only those that are deemed legal in Pueblo County.

State law prohibits the use of ANY firework that explodes or leaves the ground. Be a good neighbor and citizen and leave the exploding/aerial fireworks shows to the professionals.

Pueblo County Sheriff's deputies will be out (as the call volume and time permits) looking for violators of the fireworks law. However, due to limited resources and other higher priority calls, we are asking the community to help US! If you see someone using illegal fireworks and if it is safe to do so, take pictures/video with any identifying information on the violators and contact us on our non-emergent line at 719-583-6250.

"Every year we see the use of illegal fireworks and people just don't realize the dangers and threats these can cause to our community. We have an active wildfire in the Beulah community and I'm asking our county community to assist law enforcement with safely identifying those violating the law so enforcement action can be taken at a later time," said Pueblo County Sheriff David J. Lucero.

For those who plan to violate the law, be prepared to face penalties, which can include a fine and a court appearance.

As the sale and use of legal fireworks is permissible in Pueblo County, Lucero urges everyone who plans to use them to do so with caution and in a safe manner. Be mindful of the weather conditions, particularly due to the dry and windy conditions this time of year.

Please follow these rules when using legal fireworks:

- Don't let children handle, play with or light any fireworks.
- Don't consume alcohol when using fireworks.
- Don't attempt to re-light, alter or fix any "dud" firework item.
- Don't hold a lighted firework in your hand.
- Don't light fireworks during strong wind conditions and never indoors.

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- Don't aim, point or throw fireworks at another person or at any property.
- Light fireworks on a hard, flat and level surface, not on grass or gravel.
- Light fireworks in a clear, open area, making sure the area overhead is free from obstructions.
- Make sure trees, bushes and grass are well watered.
- Light only one firework at a time using an extended butane lighter or a punk; then move away quickly.
- Do have a fire extinguisher, water supply, hose or bucket of water nearby for emergencies. Keep a bucket of water nearby for matches or sparklers.
- Gather all spent fireworks and dispose of them properly.

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