

MEMORANDUM

To: Area Ministers

From: Florence Dukes, Safety Director

Re: CITY OF MILWAUKEE'S FIREWORKS LEGISLATION

Date: May 20, 2009

Fireworks, along with the potential damage and harm, can be disruptive and present safety concerns for communities. Per Milwaukee City Ordinance 105-47, no person may sell, expose or offer for sale, use, keep or discharge, or explode in the City of Milwaukee any type of firework device. Remember all fireworks are illegal in the City of Milwaukee, even if they were purchased outside of the City limits.

Any item that emits smoke, a bang, or sparkle is considered illegal and is upon conviction subject to a fine of not less than **\$500.00** or more than **\$1000.00** for an adult who uses or consents to the use of fireworks by a minor. Therefore, it is the policy of the Milwaukee Police Department to enforce this Ordinance whenever possible and confiscate any and all fireworks products.

Realizing that the height of the fireworks season is at a time when calls for service are in great demand, the Milwaukee Police Department will do all it can to address firework complaints for the safety of our residents. Furthermore, as we approach the summer season, the Milwaukee Police Department will again initiate a media campaign to inform citizens of the violations surrounding fireworks and the consequences of being caught in violation of the Ordinance.

In an effort to heighten the community awareness regarding the dangers and disruptions associated with fireworks and their negative impact on Public Safety, the Milwaukee Police Department is asking your assistance in this campaign by requesting that the enclosed brochures be made available to your congregation.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, but most importantly have a safe summer.