



United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission

July 24, 2025

Julie Heckman
American Pyrotechnics Association
4891 Long Beach Road, SE
Suite 3, Box #291
Southport, NC 28461

Dear Ms. Heckman:

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff¹ has updates and queries to share since last meeting with the American Pyrotechnics Association (APA) in September 2024.

Staff appreciates the opportunity to participate in the revision of APA Standard 87-1A, *Standard for the Construction, Classification, Approval, and Transportation of Consumer Fireworks*. Staff submitted comments on the revision in February 2024. As of February 2025, the standard was moving towards publication, and staff is interested in an update on the timeline for publication.

Staff wants to alert you to a press release with incident data and fireworks safety tips for the Fourth of July. It can be found on CPSC's website [here](#). Given resource limitations, CPSC staff will not be issuing the fireworks report in 2025. Previous reports can be found at [Fuel, Lighters & Fireworks | CPSC.gov](#).

Finally, CPSC staff has recently become aware of a new fireworks product similar to a roman candle but resembling a firearm. While many of these devices have a spike attached to the device indicating that the device should be planted in the ground during use, these devices also include handles that allow the user to hold the device as if it were a firearm. Some of these devices come with attachments that allow the device to mimic a type of firearm such as a shotgun or Gatling gun. Staff is concerned that this design will encourage consumers to hold and potentially point the product at others during use.

CPSC staff seeks additional information about this new type of device to learn more about its operation and common injuries associated with it. Information that staff would find beneficial include:

- Does APA consider these devices roman candles or a different type of device?
- What are the specific requirements that these devices must meet under APA 87-1?
- Approximately how long have these types of devices been on the market?
- Any data regarding injuries or deaths caused by these types of devices.
- Other pertinent information or data not specified above.

We appreciate any information you can provide and look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

¹This letter is from CPSC staff and has not been reviewed or approved by, and may not represent the views of, the Commission.



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Sincerely,

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Chemist
Division of Laboratory Sciences
Office of Risk Reduction

CC: Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator
Charles Bevington, CPSC Chemical Hazard Program Manager

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