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Dear Property Owner:

This office serves as legal counsel to the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon. The Township has been informed that fireworks have been set off by various residents of the Township. Please be advised that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 21:3-2,

[i]t shall be unlawful for any person to [. . .] possess or use, or explode any [. . .] firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, Roman candles, bombs, or other fireworks of like construction, or any firework containing any explosive or inflammable compound or any tablets or other device commonly used and sold as fireworks containing nitrates, chlorates, oxalates, sulfides of lead, barium, antimony, arsenic, mercury, nitroglycerine, phosphorus or any compound containing any of the same or other explosives, or any substance or combination of substances, or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, other than aviation and railroad signal light flares. N.J.S.A. 21:3-2(a).

Insofar as it relates to the usage of the above-listed fireworks, such use is violative of state law.

Furthermore, please be advised that aside from being illegal, the use of such fireworks is destructive to the Franklin community. Due to the excessive noise(s) produced by such fireworks, farm animals owned by the Township residents are frightened and startled and can suffer serious harm. Such fright, precipitated by the explosions, has caused many horses and dogs to suffer extensive and expensive injuries.

The Township believes that the sense of community outweighs the need to set off illegal fireworks, so that the neighbor relations can be preserved, and the damaging consequences resulting from the use of such fireworks can be avoided. As such, please be mindful of the potential harm caused by the use of illegal fireworks, as such harm can be costly to other residents of the community.