



# ATF Modernization and Activity Update

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# ATF Rulemaking - Modernization

- Michael O'Lena is with us this week!
- ATF Phase one required adjustments to address the Safe Explosives Act
- 2002 Safe Explosives Act – required ATF to add additional items to the Modernization Notice of Proposed Rule

## Timing:

- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Phase 1 – Early 2025
- Political campaign season may create a delay
  - What to do with change of Administration

# ATF Rulemaking

- Phase One Rulemaking Covers:

- Definitions: mainly to better align with DOT and CPSC definitions (referencing 87-1)
- Articles of Pyrotechnics exemption (still in the works)
- Licensing - Consolidation and alignment between importer/retailer/storage
- Record Keeping – Standardizing in an effort to reduce redundancies
- General clean-up / Compliance issues

## Phase Two Covers:

- Classifications
- Storage
- Potentially – Fireworks-specific section of the regulation

# ATF Rulemaking

## Phase 2.5-3.0 Rulemaking Covers:

- Explosives Classification – Assessing 87-1 UN classification and it's testing for possible ATF recognition (not 1.1 product)
- Quantitative Risk Assessments – Address Table of Distances Variances
  - 60 variances to deviate using the new system (high explosives)
  - Looking to conduct testing for fireworks use – creating a new model
- New Table of Distances for fireworks
- Storage – Fireworks are different and merit different requirements
  - Temporary storage and the unique challenges it brings
- E-matches – special classification option under consideration
  - Eliminate inventory reporting

# Environmental Study by Trinity Consultants

- Fireworks' impact on air quality
- Air monitor assessment of major markets in the U.S. during peak fireworks usage

## Industry Use cases for the analysis and findings:

- Reactive use with media and policymakers
- Draft media statements
- Talking points and FAQ
- Opinion Piece

# Environmental Impacts – New York Post

METRO

## **‘Killjoys’: Scientists recommend drones for July 4 fireworks, masks**

By [Matthew Sedacca](#) and [Georgia Worrell](#)

Published Aug. 10, 2024, 11:09 a.m. ET

53 Comments

“As usual, environmentalists reveal they are little more than killjoys,” said City Council Minority Leader Joe Borelli (R-Staten Island).

*“The American Pyrotechnics Association (APA) supports the fireworks industry and the communities that they serve. As a heavily regulated industry, safety is our number one priority and that encompasses both worker safety and public safety.*

*With regard to public health safety, the APA acknowledges that emissions and particulates produced by fireworks are a recent concern of interest; however, our industry strives to stay below EPA’s average 24-hour air quality standard, as reflected in a 2015 study performed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and a 2024 study performed in Quebec, ensuring that our shows are safe and environmentally responsible. Additionally, we are committed to reducing our environmental impact through ongoing product innovations.”*