SEC-018 Fireworks Display

Effective Date Monday, July 25, 2005

Status Final

Last Revised Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Policy Type University

Contact Office Safety & Security (Department of), Office of Fire Safety

Oversight Executive
Associate Vice President for Safety & Security and Chief of Police

Applies To Academic Division and the Medical Center.

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Reason for Policy

To protect life, health and property at the University from fires caused by the use of fireworks and pyrotechnics.

Definition of Terms

Fireworks

Description

A device consisting of a combination of explosives and combustibles, set off to generate colored lights, smoke and noise for amusement.[1]

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Pyrotechnics

Description

1. The art of manufacturing or setting off fireworks. **2.** A fireworks display.[2]

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Policy Statement

Fireworks and pyrotechnics can only be displayed or discharged at the University by individuals licensed to do so and only then after the site and activity has been approved by the Department of Safety & Security, Office of Fire Safety and the State Fire Marshal's Office. Additionally, a fireworks/pyrotechnics permit must be obtained from the State Fire Marshal's Office (SMFO). The Department of Safety & Security, Office of Fire Safety should be contacted and they will obtain the permit from the SMFO. There is a fee imposed by the SMFO for these permits.

Additionally, licensed individual(s) and/or firms conducting the fireworks and pyrotechnics must have a bond or insurance that has been reviewed and approved by the University's Office of Risk Management.

Fireworks and pyrotechnics can not be discharged when wind speeds are in excess of 20 miles per hour. Storage or possession of any fireworks and pyrotechnics by any non-licensed individuals is not permitted at the University.

The Department of Safety & Security, Office of Fire Safety and/or the State Fire Marshal's Office have the right to call off a scheduled fireworks or pyrotechnics show at any time.

Compliance with Policy:
Failure to comply with the requirements of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion in accordance with relevant University policies and may result in prosecution in accordance with state and federal law. This includes complying with the applicable adopted version of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code along with the associated legal proceedings to restrain, correct, or abate such alleged violation.

Direct questions about this policy to the Department of Safety & Security, Office of Fire Safety.

Major Category Safety, Security and Environmental Quality

Next Scheduled Review Saturday, March 3, 2029

Revision History

Confirmed 3/3/26; Updated Contact Office and Oversight Exec 8/21/24; Confirmed 1/13/23; Confirmed 10/25/19; Updated 8/8/08. Previous version in effect from 3/1/1999 through 7/24/05.

Supercedes Policy Text
XIV.J.1 Fireworks Display

Approved By Policy Review Committee

Approved Date Monday, July 25, 2005