



**HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 12, 2010

CONTACT: HFD Public Affairs, 713-495-7906

HFD wants everyone to enjoy the Chinese New Year celebrations, safely and lawfully

With the arrival of the Chinese New Year this Sunday, the Houston Fire Department wants to remind citizens that it is not only dangerous, but also illegal to discharge fireworks or to have fireworks in your possession in the City of Houston. Harris County residents should also be aware that HFD will be enforcing the fireworks ban in the Limited Purpose Annexation areas.

The fines are anywhere from \$500 - \$2000 for each individual firework. Each case is different and it would be up to a judge to determine the exact amount. Warnings are no longer used because of the seriousness of the firework laws.

If a minor is caught with fireworks, the parent or guardian will receive the fine even if they were unaware of the minor's possession and/or usage.

Working Smoke Detectors Save Lives!

Also follow HFD on Twitter and Facebook
<http://twitter.com/cohoustonfire>
<http://www.facebook.com/HoustonFireDepartment>
<http://www.facebook.com/hfd.recruiting>