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JON M. DAVINE
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

TO: Proprietors of restaurants, nightclubs, bars, and discotheques
FROM: Jon M. Davine, State Fire Marshal
DATE: January 6, 2026
RE: Sparklers and other pyrotechnics

Please be advised that sparklers and other pyrotechnic devices, including so-called “cold spark” pyrotechnics, are illegal for possession, sale, and use in Massachusetts without professional licensing, certification, and permitting. This includes small sparklers that have been sold as novelties or party favors to accompany champagne bottles, which are believed to have caused the New Year’s Eve fire that claimed 40 lives and injured more than 100 people in Crans-Montana, Switzerland.

The unlawful use of sparklers and related devices in restaurants, nightclubs, bars, and discotheques would constitute a violation of the Massachusetts General Laws and the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code. It could lead to severe consequences for any licensed establishment. More to the point, it would pose a grave life safety hazard to patrons and staff.

Under no circumstances should they be used as decorations, party favors, or any other form of entertainment in such a venue.

If your establishment is in possession of such devices, please notify your local fire department immediately so they can safely dispose of the hazard.

Sincerely,

Jon M. Davine
State Fire Marshal