06 June 2013

Community safety will remain a top priority this Territory Day after regulations for the wholesale of fireworks were strengthened last year.

Applicants must now apply for a certificate from the Commissioner of Police stating they are appropriate to obtain a wholesale licence.

Acting Minister for Business John Elferink said the change was focused on improving safety around the distribution of fireworks.

“Last year between midnight on 28 June to 4 July 2012, there was 13 reported firework-affecting people aged 9-51 years,” Mr Elferink said.

“The Territory is the only place in Australia where fireworks can be bought and used without a permit. Territory Day is a great day to mark our history being the anniversary of Northern Territory self-government in 1978.

“We are a unique part of Australia and acknowledge that we also have a unique lifestyle that sets us apart from everywhere else in the nation.

“As Government, we also acknowledge that fireworks can have the potential to cause harm, and by strengthening authorisation, we will improve community safety for all Territorians."

Applications without a police certificate will not be processed.

“Community safety is our number one priority,” Mr Elferink said.

For more information visit www.worksafe.nt.gov.au

Media Contact:
Danielle Lede 0404 515 414