CODING CORNER: FIREWORKS – BUILDING FIRES

These directions should be used for reporting non-arson Fireworks fires that start in/on the building and are not exposures from vegetation fires.

These incidents must include, at minimum, a Basic module, a Fire module, and a Structure Fire module. Completing an Apparatus/Personnel module is optional but highly encouraged.

If a Civilian Fire Casualty (injury or fatality) occurs due to the fire and YOU are the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for the incident, you are responsible for completing one Civilian Fire Casualty Module per civilian.

If a Fire Service Casualty (injury or fatality) from your department occurs, a Fire Service Casualty module is mandatory.

Incident Type(s):  111 – Building Fire
112 – Non-building Structure (bridges, fences, etc.)
122 – Fire in a motorhome/RV as a fixed location
123 – Fire in portable building as a fixed location

Examples of Action(s) Taken:   11 – Extinguished
87 – Investigate, fire out on arrival

Heat Source:   54 – Fireworks (includes sparklers, paper caps, party poppers, and firecrackers)

Basic Module
The below area all required fields when completing the Basic Module, but it is always recommended to fill out all fields for a comprehensive incident report.

- Alarm, Arrival, and Last Unit Cleared dates/times
- Mutual Aid (See ‘Mutual Aid’ reference sheet for more information)
- Resources (Complete an Apparatus/Personnel module for more detail)
- Estimated Dollar Losses & Values are estimates, and are required for all fires
- Property Use

Fire Module
The below are all required sections/fields when completing the Fire module but it is always recommended to fill out all fields for a comprehensive incident report.

- Number of Residential Units (apartments), buildings, and acres involved (only required if Property Use section of the Basic Module is coded in the 400-series codes)
- On Site Materials or Products would only be completed if a significant amount of commercial, industrial, energy, or agricultural products/materials were on-site. Typically, house/residential fires do not need On-Site Materials or Products completed.
• **Section D – Ignition**
  o **Area of Fire Origin** should be coded for where the fire started in/on the structure, such as 72 – Balcony, 76 – Exterior Wall, 77 – Roof, etc.
  o **Heat Source** should be coded as 54 – Fireworks.
  o **Item First Ignited** would be what the Fireworks set on fire first.

• **Section E – Cause of Ignition**
  o **Cause of Ignition** will be “Unintentional.”
  o **Factors Contributing to Ignition** could range from 11 – Abandoned materials, 12 – Heat Source too Close, 10 – Misuse, 50 – Operational Deficiency, to 61 – High Wind. Use what is most appropriate.
  o **Human Factors Contributing to Ignition**, such as ‘Alcohol’ or ‘Age’. If age was a factor, list the age of the person.

• **NOTE: Equipment Involved** would be “None.” **Mobile Property Involved** would be “None,” unless a car was in the garage and burned. In that case, mark “Not Involved in Ignition, but Burned” in the field. You do not need an exposure report.

**Structure Fire Module**

When a fire occurs in an enclosed building or a portable/mobile structure, **all** elements of the Structure Fire Module must be completed.

• **Section I – Structure Type, Building Status, Building Height, and Main Floor Size.** (Tip: the appraiser’s website is often a good reference, with blueprints and size information listed.)

• **Section J – Fire Origin, Fire Spread, and Number of Stories Damaged by Flame**
  Use **Section K** to describe materials that contributed most to flame spread, if different from the **Item First Ignited** in the Fire module. Examples: 97 – Oily Rags, 14 – Floor Covering (carpet), 21 – Sofa, etc. If this code is less than 70, enter the Type of Material Contributing Most to Flame Spread to provide more detailed information about the item(s).

• **Section L – Detector Information** should be completed regarding the presence, type, power supply, operation, effectiveness, and reasons for failure (if any) of the detectors.

• **Section M – Automatic Extinguishing System** should be completed as applicable.

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact the NFIRS administrator by email at [NFIRS@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:NFIRS@wsp.wa.gov) or by phone at 360-596-3924.