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## LOG OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

### U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

**SUBJECT:** Meeting with members of the fireworks industry on Capitol Hill. P. 6: 16

**DATE OF MEETING:** April 29, 1998

**PLACE:** Room 2105, Rayburn House Office Building

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Patrick Race

**DATE OF ENTRY:** May 4, 1998

#### COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Patrick M. Race, Compliance Officer, FTR

#### NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

15-20 Fireworks industry members representing, among others: Starr Displays (C. Starr), Midwest Fireworks (L. Lomaz), Schneitter Fireworks (Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schneitter), Kellner's (B. Kellner), "Fireworks Business" (J. Drewes)

Lyle Williams, International Capitol Strategies

Mark Waller, Specialist, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Congressional staff for Reps. Shuster and Tauzin

#### SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This was a meeting organized by International Capitol Strategies on behalf of the fireworks industry for the purpose of lobbying Congress and airing grievances on behalf of the fireworks industry. Representatives who have seats on committees with oversight functions over various federal agencies that regulate fireworks were the 'target' audience.

Among the topics discussed were complaints about the classification of fireworks and the "overlapping" jurisdictions of ATF, CPSC and DOT. The attendees felt that one agency (preferably ATF) should regulate fireworks and CPSC should be excluded entirely.

The grievances aired to Rep. Tauzin's staff included: Injury statistics and the feeling that CPSC expends too much of its resources regulating the fireworks industry; Firms that complain are targeted for inspections, especially around the 4th of July; CPSC's regulations and alleged "abuses" by CPSC inspectors. The fireworks industry attendees expressed the belief that CPSC abuses its power and exceeds its jurisdiction in regulating fireworks.

Questions addressed to the CPSC attendee included how injury data is collected and what fireworks devices are considered subject to the CPSC's jurisdiction. Rep. Tauzin's staff addressed several questions to the industry reps. regarding the subject of data collection and the Commission's reauthorization hearings.