



CONNECTICUT INTERLOCAL RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY
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August 18, 2009

Mr. David O'Brien
President
Amston Lake Tax District
P. O. Box 95
Amston, CT 06231

RE: July 28, 2009 Phone Conversation

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

Thank you for providing CIRMA with the opportunity to assist the Amston Lake Tax District with its risk management and safety initiatives. During our phone conversation on July 28, 2009 you explained some of the District's concerns with members of the public firing projectile / illegal fireworks over the District's property. Although it is difficult to control the public's actions beyond the efforts that you have already implemented with the State Police, we also discussed a variety of risk management initiatives that you should consider in order to enhance the District's current efforts at limiting the liability exposure that may be present.

As a review of our conversation and to assist the District in implementing the risk management initiatives that we discussed, I have outlined my recommendations below.

- **Communication & Signage**

Communicating to the public (both residents of the Amston Lake Tax District and non-residents) and posting clear and visible signage which specifically states that projectile / illegal fireworks are not allowed on or permitted to be used on the District's property is a risk management best-practice that can help limit the District's liability exposure in the event that an accident or injury occurs involving the use of illegal fireworks on the District's property.

LAP 0809-1: During our phone conversation you explained that the District is communicating its policy against the use of illegal fireworks on its website and through newsletters that are being sent to all of the District's residents. It is recommended that these proactive measures be continued as well as expanded to include any other public forums that may exist within the District (for example a community bulletin board). Additionally, the District should make all efforts to document that these communication efforts are being made.

LAP 0809-2: Clear and visible signage which specifically states that projectile / illegal fireworks are not permitted on or permitted to be used on District property should be posted at all common entrances to District properties where the concern of their use is perceived. Once this signage is posted, the District should also consider implementing an inspection process to ensure that signage has not been removed, destroyed, or defaced over time (maintaining back-up or replacement signage should also be considered).

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