



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

620 South "E" Street • San Bernardino, CA 92415-0153 • (909) 386-8401 • Fax (909) 386-8460

Office of the Fire Marshal
Hazardous Materials Division
sbcfire.org

Mark A. Hartwig
Fire Chief/Fire Warden

Michael A. Horton
Fire Marshal

June 6, 2018

TO:

SUBJECT: Safe & Sane Fireworks Prohibited in High Fire Hazard Areas

The San Bernardino County Fire Department and the City of Fontana would like to wish our residents and visitors a patriotic and safe 4th of July Independence Day celebration. Fontana is one of the few cities in San Bernardino County to allow the sale and use of Safe and Sane fireworks, and they do so in a very responsible manner. Although Safe and Sane fireworks are only allowed within designated city limits, all fireworks are prohibited in High Fire Hazard Areas per City of Fontana Municipal Code Section 15-616. All fireworks (including Safe and Sane) are prohibited in the area north of Summit Avenue, west of Interstate 15 and east of Lytle Creek Road.

The City and the County Fire Department wants to remind our residents that possession and use of any type of fireworks considered "dangerous" are illegal and against the law in any area within the city as well as unincorporated communities of San Bernardino County. In the likely event a fire or injury occurs due to the unsafe or illegal use of any fireworks, the responsible persons may face criminal charges and possibly be held liable for damages. Fines for first-time offenses begin at over \$1,000.00 and may lead to other more severe criminal charges.

Residents play an important role in keeping illegal fireworks out of our communities. Fireworks that are not in direct control of the operator or that explode, shoot into the air or move along the ground and are not approved by the California State Fire Marshal are deemed dangerous and are illegal anywhere in the state of California. (See attached flyer).

With our County and Cities facing current severe drought conditions, a dangerous and active urban and wildland fire season can be expected. Local fire departments in cooperation with law enforcement agencies have increased its efforts in enforcing state and county fireworks laws to meet our residents personal and the public's safety expectations. Fire and police officials will remain united in the diligent enforcement of our local laws during the 4th of July holiday season and will be issuing citations for the illegal use of fireworks and actions that result in fires and injuries and may ultimately result in misdemeanor or felony charges. Property owners may also be cited if they allow dangerous and illegal fireworks to be possessed, stored or used on their property.

County Fire, in partnership with Fontana Police and the City of Fontana, encourages all of you to join us in a community sponsored 4th of July celebration with your family and leave the firework displays to the experts. It is the safest way for your family to enjoy the holiday.

Please help us reduce the risk to you and your family, as well as our firefighters and police officers by reporting illegal activities to your local Police and Fire agencies or WE TIP at 1-800-468-4408.

Respectfully,

MICHAEL A. HORTON, Fire Marshal
San Bernardino County Fire Protection District
Office of the Fire Marshal
mhorton@sbcfire.org
"Duty, Honor, Community"

MAH:aw

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert A. Lovingood
Chairman, First District

Janice Rutherford
Second District

James Ramos
Third District

Curt Hagman
Vice Chairman, Fourth District

Josie Gonzales
Fifth District

Gary McBride
Chief Executive Officer