

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

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CONTACT: Louis Penna, Public Information Officer

(909) 387-5870

San Bernardino County Fire Investigators Confiscate Thousands of Pounds in Fireworks

A San Bernardino County multi-agency task force led by San Bernardino County Fire Department's Fire Investigations Unit seized 7,500 pounds of dangerous and illegal fireworks during operations conducted on June 3 and 4; Fire Investigators issued 40 citations totaling \$50,000 in fines for possession of illegal fireworks.

With San Bernardino County facing a dangerous wildland fire season, the San Bernardino County Fire Department (SBCoFD) is partnering with law enforcement agencies to increase its vigilance in enforcing state and county firework laws in order to protect public health and safety. Fire officials will be issuing citations for the illegal use, possession, or storage of fireworks with fines up to \$1,250 for the first offense with the possibility of arrest. Property owners may be cited if they allow fireworks to be possessed, stored, or used on their property.

All fireworks that explode, shoot into the air or move along the ground are termed dangerous and are illegal anywhere in California. "Safe and Sane" fireworks bear the State Fire Marshal seal on the packaging and are only allowed in the following cities: Adelanto, Barstow, Chino, Colton, and Rialto, as well as specific locations in Fontana, Grand Terrace, and San Bernardino.

Please call the fire department in these cities for more information. All fireworks are illegal elsewhere in the county.

Photos of the confiscated fireworks can be found at sbcfire.org/news.aspx.

SBCoFD encourages residents to leave fireworks to the professionals and enjoy a local show in your community. A schedule of public firework shows in San Bernardino County can be found at sbcfire.org.

SBCoFD encourages residents to report illegal fireworks to local authorities or to WeTip at 1-800-47-ARSON or WeTip.com.

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