



News from: Oakland Police Department



For Immediate Release

December 28, 2015

Stay Safe During Holiday Celebrations: Avoid Celebratory Gunfire, Any Gunfire and Illegal Fireworks

Oakland, CA – The Oakland Police Department and Fire Department are working together to plan for a safe holiday season in the City of Oakland.

Oakland's Police Chief Sean Whent and Fire Chief Teresa Deloach Reed want you to celebrate New Year's Eve safely and would like to remind everyone of the dangers and penalties associated with celebratory gunfire, any gunfire and the use of illegal fireworks. (See their public safety message at <https://vimeo.com/150272375>.) Setting off fireworks and shooting guns can be hazardous, putting people at risk of injury and even death. Such high risk activities have no place in our City.

As a part of our commitment to public safety, quality of life, and vitality in our communities, OPD is focused on stopping illegal gun use. During the holiday season the Department will be increasing staffing and deploying patrol officers to specific areas of the City that have the highest amount of gunshot activity as indicated by ShotSpotter activations and data collection from last year.

As they focus on prevention and education, officers will enforce the law, arresting anyone caught discharging a firearm or shooting off illegal fireworks.

We encourage our community not to participate in any gunfire and illegal fireworks.

We are actively seeking information regarding the illegal storage of fireworks, no matter how large or small, commercial or residential, their storage presents a public safety threat to our community. You can remain anonymous when providing information. We want to ensure that all our residents are able to ring in the New Year in a safe manner.

If you know someone or see someone who is engaged in these illegal activities, please contact us at the phone numbers below to report.

You can remain anonymous when providing information.

Report any gunfire, including celebratory gunfire by calling 911 or from a cell phone: 510-238-3211.

Report illegal fireworks by calling the Fireworks Tip Line at 510-238-2373.

Anonymous Tipping allows residents to proactively connect with the Oakland Police Department by submitting anonymous tips via web form and text message. Additionally, with the issuance of a tipping passcode to tipsters, we can initiate a two-

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way, anonymous communication to help gather more information.

Make an ANONYMOUS TIP by phone:

- Homicide 510-238-3821
- Illegal Drugs 510-238-3784
- Illegal Firearm or Firearm Offense 510-535-4867
- Sexual Assault Hotline 510-637-0298

AS A SAFETY REMINDER:

- Always be aware of your surroundings. Don't be distracted by cell phones and electronic devices;
- Stay in well-lit and populated areas;
- Be especially alert when entering and exiting your vehicle;
- Remember to lock your car door after entering your vehicle; and
- If someone or something looks suspicious call the police.

Nixle Tip Watch allows ANONYMOUS tipsters to send OPD a tip three ways:

1. Text TIP OAKLANDPD to 888777 from your cell phone followed by your tip
2. Call our toll-free tip hotline at 855-TIPS-247 (855-847-7247)
3. Submit a tip by web form - see the option at the bottom of OPD's Nixle messages or visit <http://nixle.us/tip/oakland-police-department-ca/> to complete and send.

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510-238-7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

Visit Nixle.com to receive Oakland Police Department alerts, advisories and community messages, or follow OPD on Twitter, @oaklandpoliceca.

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