



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

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## News from: Oakland Police Department

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2017

### *REMINDER:* Stay Safe During 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebrations: Avoid Illegal Fireworks and Celebratory Gunfire

*Oakland, CA* — The Oakland Police Department and Fire Department are working together to plan for a safe 4th of July in the City of Oakland. We want everyone to celebrate this Independence Day safely. In this spirit, we would like to remind everyone of the dangers and penalties associated with celebratory firearm discharges and the use of illegal fireworks. Setting off illegal fireworks and shooting guns can put you and the people you love at risk for injury and even death. Illegal fireworks and celebratory gunfire should have no place in our City's Independence Day celebrations.

As a part of our commitment to public safety, quality of life, and vitality in our communities, the Oakland Police Department is focused on stopping illegal gun use. During the holiday, the Department will increase staffing and deploy patrol officers to key areas of the City (those with the highest amount of gunshot and firework activity as indicated by ShotSpotter activation and data collection from 2016).

#### **Celebratory Gunfire = Jail**

- Officers will arrest anyone caught discharging a firearm.
- Report celebratory gunfire by calling 911 (by cell phone, **510-777-3211**).

#### **Fireworks = Fines**

- Illegal fireworks, hot weather, and increased fire danger also increase the risk of injuries and fatalities. Officers who observe illegal fireworks have a twofold responsibility: they will provide educational information regarding fire prevention and they will enforce the law.
- People caught with fireworks can be fined up to \$1,000. Penalties for possession of large quantities of fireworks include fines ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000, plus imprisonment.
- To report persons with fireworks or large cache of fireworks call the Fireworks Tip Line at **(510) 238-2373**, up until July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- **On the day of July 4<sup>th</sup>, DO NOT CALL the Fireworks Tip Line. Please report fireworks activity by calling the OPD Non-emergency number at (510) 777-3333.**

#### **Fireworks Collection Barrels**

To help get illegal fireworks off the street, the Oakland Fire Department has set up fireworks collection barrels at the following fire stations:

- Station 1: 1603 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
- Station 3: 1445 14th Street
- Station 4: 1235 International Boulevard
- Station 5: 934 34th Street

- Station 18: 5008 Bancroft Avenue
- Station 20: 1401 98th Avenue

**More Information Is Available**

- Click the link to access a multilingual flyer (in English, Spanish, and Chinese):  
<http://oaklandnet.oakland.local/oak/groups/police/documents/webcontent/oak047777.pdf>.

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at (510) 238-7230 or [opdmedia@oaklandnet.com](mailto:opdmedia@oaklandnet.com).

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