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**NEWS RELEASE**



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### Illegal Fireworks Warning Ahead of July 4th

VENTURA, Calif. – The Ventura County District Attorney’s Office is warning Ventura County residents and visitors about the dangers of illegal fireworks as we prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July. The use and dangers of illegal fireworks are present in all our communities throughout the county. These illegal fireworks cause fires, injuries to our children, and loud explosions that are stressful to many suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

In Ventura County, all fireworks are illegal except for those described as “Safe and Sane”, which are only legal in the city of Fillmore. Please be aware that even if you purchase “Safe and Sane” fireworks in Fillmore, it is illegal to use or possess them anywhere in Ventura County outside of Fillmore.

All fireworks are hazardous substances and can cause injuries. Sparklers, which are often considered “safe” by many, burn at a very high temperature and account for a high number of burns to the hands and fingers of children. Water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit, wood burns at 575 degrees F, and sparklers burn at 1200 degrees F. They are not safe for kids.

All fireworks that are launched into the air are illegal. All fireworks that explode are illegal. Common fireworks that fit these categories include skyrocketers, bottle rockets, roman candles, firecrackers, and M80s. They are all illegal in California.

"As we celebrate the Fourth of July, let us remember that the display of fireworks should be left in the hands of trained professionals," District Attorney Erik Nasarenko said.

There are legal consequences for violating laws pertaining to illegal fireworks. In addition to local ordinance violations, possession or use of fireworks can be a misdemeanor or a felony under California Health and Safety Code sections 12500-12702 and Penal Code sections 18710-18750. Violators face up to one year in jail for a misdemeanor conviction, and up to three years for a

felony conviction. Fines may also be imposed ranging from \$500 to \$10,000, depending on the seriousness of the violation.

Information for safe and professional fireworks displays available throughout our community is available at [4th of July Fireworks, Parades and Other Events Around Ventura County — Conejo Valley Guide | Conejo Valley Events](#).

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July!