



**For Immediate Release
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City of Oakland Steps Up Enforcement against Illegal Fireworks *Violators Face \$1,000 Fine, Residents Encouraged to Call Hot Line*

Oakland, CA — As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, the City of Oakland reminds residents that the use of fireworks is prohibited in Oakland. During the Independence Day holiday, the illegal use of fireworks is one of the major complaints received by the Oakland Police Department.

The Oakland Municipal Code makes ALL fireworks illegal. Violators who are sixteen years or older may be cited and face fines of \$1,000. Also, the ordinance states that “every parent, guardian, or other person, having legal care, custody or control of any person under the age of eighteen years, who knows or reasonably should have known that a minor is in violation of this ordinance, may be issued a citation.”

The sale, transfer, possession and use of fireworks is prohibited. Specifically, the law makes the following activities a criminal offense:

1. Sell, or advertise for sale, any firework or pyrotechnical device.
2. Transfer to another any firework or pyrotechnical device.
3. Possess any firework or pyrotechnical device.
4. Use or cause to be detonated any firework or pyrotechnical device.

The law can be viewed in its entirety at
<http://municipalcodes.lexisnexis.com/codes/Oakland/>.

Residents are encouraged to report the illegal use of fireworks by calling a special hot line: **(510) 238-2373**.

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