



LEMOORE POLICE ENFORCE ZERO TOLERANCE ON ILLEGAL FIREWORKS



By Francisco Ramirez Jr.

Lemoore Prepares for Busy Fourth of July Weekend

LEMOORE, CA – With Independence Day falling on a Friday this year, public safety officials in Lemoore are preparing for what is expected to be a busy and eventful weekend. During the July 1 city council meeting, Lemoore Police Chief Michael Kendall outlined increased enforcement measures to address anticipated fireworks violations and ensure community safety.

"We are going to essentially double our staffing throughout the weekend," Kendall announced during his update to the Lemoore City Council. He added that officers will work in partnership with the <u>fire department</u> to respond swiftly to illegal fireworks use across the city.

Zero Tolerance for Illegal Fireworks

Kendall emphasized a firm approach to fireworks enforcement, stating that the department will operate under a "zero tolerance" policy. "We're encouraging the neighbors to call in as



(559) 585-1500



long as we can pinpoint it to the house," Kendall said, referring to the <u>city ordinance</u> that allows citations to be issued directly to property owners, even if the individual igniting the fireworks is not present when officers arrive.

"Obviously, the people who are actually lighting the fireworks can be cited as well," Kendall added, "but we will be out there with a zero tolerance enforcement."

The ordinance, which prioritizes <u>accountability</u> and safety, enables officers to cite homeowners based on verified locations of illegal firework activity.

Additional Outreach and Community Engagement

In addition to ramped-up enforcement, the police department is continuing its <u>community</u> engagement initiatives. Kendall highlighted the upcoming "Ice Pops with the Cops" event taking place Thursday at the Memorial Center. The event, organized in partnership with the fire department, will coincide with the final day of the summer enrichment program and aims to build positive relationships between youth and local <u>law enforcement</u>.

The City of <u>Lemoore</u> has seen rising concerns from residents in recent years regarding noise, fire hazards, and property damage associated with unauthorized fireworks displays. Kendall's announcement reflects a proactive stance by the <u>city to maintain public safety</u> during one of the busiest weekends of the summer.

As the <u>Central Valley</u> braces for warm weather and holiday gatherings, Lemoore's law enforcement and fire teams are preparing to keep the city safe and orderly throughout the festivities.

What do you think about the city's approach to handling fireworks this year? Should stricter penalties be considered?