



2019 FIREWORKS ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Fire Department

Public Safety Committee Meeting
September 18, 2019



RiversideCA.gov

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Public Safety Committee requested the following items to be discussed:

1. Fireworks program analysis
2. Call volume statistics
3. Fiscal impact of the program to RFD, RPD and Code (i.e. straight time, OT, marketing, etc.)
4. Identify areas for improvement



2

RiversideCA.gov

TASK FORCE OPERATIONS

1. Occurred June 29th and July 3rd - 6th
2. RPD and RFD monitored incoming 3-1-1 texts to assist dispatcher(s) and to ensure quicker response times
3. Increased number of task forces from 6 to 19 on July 4th. (5-6 nights added)



3

RiversideCA.gov

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATIONS 2018/2019

Administrative Citation Status 2018	Quantity	Payment Received
Paid in full	11	\$11,000
Payment Plan Set up	20	on-going
Appealed	6	on-going
Dismissed	2	\$0
Sent to Collections	New Process \$1,000+ CA	on-going
Total	70	\$

Administrative Citation Status 2019	Quantity	Payment Received
Paid in full	13	\$13,000
Payment Plan Set up	4	on-going
Appealed	10	on-going
Dismissed	1	\$0
Sent to Collections	Not available	Not available
Total	145	\$

4



RiversideCA.gov

2019 STATISTICS

	Calls For Service	Fires	Injuries	Citations	Patrol Contacts	Fireworks Confiscated
2016	955	9	6	20	160	780 lbs.
2017	746	15	1	139	304	805 lbs.
2018	599	10	0	70	337	630 lbs.
2019	693	16	0	131	314	3,856 lbs.



5

RiversideCA.gov

PHANTOM FIREWORKS WESTERN REGION, LLC.



1. Dispatch received a tip from the County
2. RPD and RFD responded to inspect and investigate
3. Confiscated approx. 2,500 lbs.
4. Met with State
5. Restitution, disposal, criminal offense



6

RiversideCA.gov

MISC. 2019 FIREWORKS UPDATES

1. No Fireworks "Reward" calls taken
2. 3-1-1 calls from 06/01/19 – 07/15/19 = 185 calls
** (2018 recorded 252 calls)
3. Highest 3-1-1 center calls during 06/01/19 – 07/15/19:
 - A. Ward 1, Downtown
 - B. Ward 3, Magnolia Center
 - C. Ward 7, La Sierra



7

RiversideCA.gov

CONT. 311 AFTER-HOURS SERVICE

1. After-hours services available Mon. – Fri. from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. & Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 am the next business day.
2. Mobile application available from 06/01 to 08/30 for 4th of July
3. 3-1-1 will refer caller to call 9-1-1 if it involves fire/life safety. Non-emergency calls will be deferred to 951-354-2007.
4. RFD and RPD issued warning letters to persons who received a citation last year; any actual addresses retrieved from 3-1-1; and any person the Task Force received information on using illegal fireworks.



8

RiversideCA.gov

ENHANCED 2019 FIREWORKS PROGRAM

1. "Fireworks are Illegal" Press Conference with City Mayor and elected officials was held at City Hall.
2. Additional staffing was provided to support the task force operations on the 4th of July.
3. Increased social media outreach with branding of "Fireworks Are Illegal" image stating a \$1,000 fine would be issued.
4. Pub Ed Coordinator attended various City meetings and handed out posters to local businesses for their store fronts.
5. New PSA's and videos in English/Spanish, describing task force procedures when receiving and responding to 3-1-1 and 9-1-1 fireworks calls.



9

RiversideCA.gov

9-1-1 FIREWORKS CALLS

Year	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5	5 DAY TOTAL
2015	8	32	94	374	123	631
2016	78	132	188	307	94	799
2017	82	86	138	304	41	651
2018	58	27	77	403	34	599
2019	19	28	77	495	74	693

NOTE: Provide a dedicated dispatcher for 4th of July and New Years Eve.



10

RiversideCA.gov

FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IDENTIFIED

1. Have (1) fireworks show at the Riverside Municipal Airport on July 4th, 2020
2. Develop a banner for NEW RPD plane for advertising
3. Increase staffing for 4th of July but reduce the days of coverage
4. Share flyers with other department Public Information Officers



11

RiversideCA.gov

NEW YEARS 2019/2020

1. Pub Ed Coordinator to hand out posters to local businesses and send out electronic email to all RUSD and ALVORD schools prior to holiday
2. Mobile application available from 12/01/19 to 01/30/20
3. Repurpose the flyer image for use on other platforms
 - A. Social media (posts, event/header images for both City and Fire pages)
 - B. Website slider image
 - C. Parking meter graphic
 - D. Electronic signs (Marketplace, University Village and Auto Center signs)
 - E. City Hall lobby television screens (welcome screens near the main entrance)
 - F. Electronic billboards will be operating from December 1st to Jan 31st.



12

RiversideCA.gov

RECOMMENDATION

That the Public Safety Committee review and discuss the illegal fireworks education and enforcement program plan.



13

RiversideCA.gov