



# 2023 Fireworks Update

## Fire Department

City Council  
May 7, 2024



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## BACKGROUND

- Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2022, reported over ten thousand (10,000) injuries related to fireworks and eleven (11) deaths.
- The City of Riverside has developed a Task Force consisting of Code Enforcement, Fire Department, and the Police Department personnel.
  - The City of Riverside campaign aims was to inform, educate, and enforce codes to reduce and prevent personal injuries or property damage from Fireworks.



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## RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE

- Riverside Municipal Code 16.32.370 Section 5601.1.1:
  - The manufacturing, possession, storage, use, and handling of fireworks is prohibited.
- RMC Chapter 1.18, Section 1.18.040 Penalties:
  - Admin Citation in the amount of \$1,000 and a disposal fee set by the state.
- RMC Chapter 16.32, Section 104.1.1 Citations:
  - Fire code official and his or her designee are authorized to issue a citation.
- RMC Chapter 16.32, Section 16.32.080 Assistance from Other Agencies:
  - Authority to render assistance with investigation of fires/enforcement when requested to do so.



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## FIREWORKS PROGRAM ACTIONS

- The Riverside Office of Communications, Riverside Fire Department, and the Riverside Police Department provided Fireworks Public Safety Announcements (PSAs), that aired throughout June and July.
- Electronic billboards at the Auto Mall near Adams and the 91 Freeway, and the Marketplace at Mission Inn Avenue and the 91 Freeway featured “No Fireworks” messaging beginning in June.
- RFD and RPD used social media outlets to identify fireworks sales activity.
- The fine for illegal fireworks is \$1,000. RFD, RPD, and Code Enforcement partnered to enforce fireworks violations.



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## FIREWORKS PROGRAM ACTIONS

- RFD, City Code Enforcement, and RPD increased staffing from June 29 – July 4, 2023. RFD overstaffed six (9) fire apparatus to stand by at the Mt. Rubidoux and La Sierra fireworks shows on July 4, 2024
- Fire management staff were on duty and on-call for emergencies. Three battalion chiefs were on duty for July 4, and four additional chief officers were on-call and available to respond if needed.
- All 14 Fire stations are directed to maintain a visible presence during July 4 festivities to enforce RMC 16.31.100 and to educate the public on the danger associated with fireworks.
- Five (5) to seven (7) Task Forces were active nightly.



## Response and Citation Information

- Data totals collected between June 30, 2023, and July 4, 2023:

Total Radio Calls	Total On-View	Total 311 Calls	Total Fireworks Seized	Total Citations Issued	Total Collected from Citations
279	132	82	340 pounds	24	\$2,000



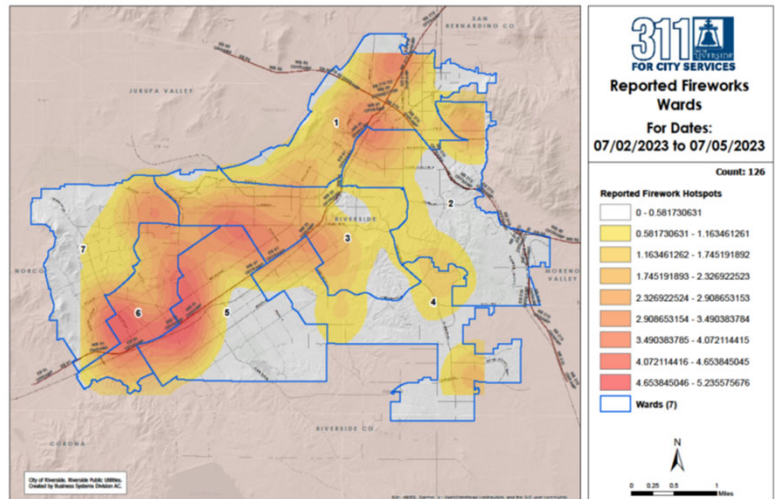
# Response and Citation Information

- Citations Update:
  - Twenty-four (24) citations were referred to finance.
  - Two (2) citations have been paid in full.
  - Following exhaustive internal collection efforts, the unpaid accounts will be referred to an external collections' agency



# Citation By Ward

- Ward 1 – 0
- Ward 2 – 6
- Ward 3 – 3
- Ward 4 – 5
- Ward 5 – 6
- Ward 6 – 6
- Ward 7 - 3



## FISCAL IMPACT

- Fiscal Impact for the June 30 to July 4 fireworks enforcement and event staffing totaled \$95,375.
- Department financial breakdown:

Code Enforcement	Police Department	Fire Department
\$5,645	\$63,319	\$26,411



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## Recommendations

That the City Council :

1. Receive update on fireworks enforcement for 2023.



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