



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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ATTACHMENT 3

Date: November 19, 2015

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Jason DeWitt, Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal/Investigator
Fireworks Program Coordinator.

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:
Fireworks Program Update

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

This is information only. The purpose of this report is to update the board on program activities, goals, and direction.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Fireworks Program is one of The Office of The State Fire Marshal's original core programs.

The program provides fireworks and pyrotechnic licensing, supports other agencies throughout the state in statutory, regulatory, permitting, technical expertise, and enforcement services. The program utilizing only three personnel (two located in Sacramento and one in Southern California).

With recent management and industry changes, the program's responsibility has continued to expand rapidly. The Fireworks Program anticipates adding an additional person in early 2016 to address program demands.

ANALYSIS/SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

I. Seizure and Disposal

Pounds of fireworks for destruction are based on amounts reported on seizure report forms and are considered *estimated*. Pounds of fireworks shipped were actually weighed.

Fireworks reported seized left over from previous years	226,000 lbs.
Fireworks reported seized since January 2015	56,728 lbs.
Fireworks currently held in SFM storage	20,000 lbs.(included in previous years)
Viable fireworks held at Magazine Canyon	15,600 lbs.(already processed)
Viable fireworks held at Victorville	25,800 lbs.(already processed)
Fireworks shipped/destroyed since July 1, 2015	77,000 lbs.
Remaining fireworks to process	164,328 lbs.

II. Regulations

- The Division has hired an AGPA to assist with regulations packages. The AGPA will start November 1, 2015.
- CCR, T-19, Chapter 6 will be completely revamped. This is the new AGPA's first priority.
- Program is currently working to implement a new General Fireworks committee pending approval of interested member candidates by Chief Hoover.
- Highlights include:
 - Possible Fee increases.
 - Updating and codification of applications and process.
 - Instituting tiered application and background investigation of operators.
 - Clarification of classification, storage, and use of fireworks and pyrotechnics.
 - Regulations for the fireworks stewardship program should the program be signed into law.

III. Licensing

Program currently provides licensing services for 1,546 fireworks and pyrotechnic licensees in 24 separate categories.

LICENSES			
TYPE	# ACTIVE	# INACTIVE	TOTAL
Companies			
Agriculture & Wildlife	4	10	14
Party Popper/Snap Cap Distributer	5	19	24
Emergency signaling device	3	10	13
Public display general	25	48	73
High power rockets	3	8	11
Importer/Exporter	31	57	88
Public display limited	2	73	75
Manufacturer	3	14	17
Model Rocket motors	3	10	13
Retail high power rocket	1	4	5
Public display special	14	140	154
Wholesaler	31	50	81
Totals	125	443	568
Operators			
Unrestricted	1	0	1
Basic commercial	554	328	882
Restricted commercial	4	5	9
Rocket first class	9	1	10
Rocket second class	12	8	20
Special effects first class	148	80	228
Special effects second class	79	109	188
Special effects third class	386	504	890
Theatrical trainee	100	147	247
Theatrical	69	32	101
Performer	12	66	78
Rocket third class	47	58	105
Totals	1421	1338	2759
Annual Retail Booth			3000
Total			3000