



City of Atascadero
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Dan Suttles
Chief of Police

Dear Residents,

As we approach the Fourth of July holiday, the City of Atascadero is providing information regarding a new ordinance adopted to address the use of illegal fireworks within our community.

Atascadero faces significant wildfire risk, particularly during the summer months when dry vegetation, warm temperatures, and seasonal winds can quickly turn a small ignition source into a major emergency. Illegal fireworks not only increase the risk of fires, but also create hazards for residents, pets, property, and emergency responders.

To help protect our community, the City has adopted an Illegal Fireworks Social Host Accountability Ordinance. The ordinance establishes penalties and cost recovery provisions for individuals who host, allow, possess, use, or discharge illegal fireworks in violation of state and local laws. The goal is not simply enforcement, but prevention through education, personal responsibility, and community awareness.

To assist residents in understanding the ordinance, the City has prepared a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document addressing common questions about the new requirements, reporting procedures, potential penalties, and available exceptions. We encourage all residents to review both the ordinance and the FAQ before the holiday season.

We appreciate the community's partnership in helping keep Atascadero safe. By working together, we can reduce the risk of fireworks-related fires and ensure a safer Fourth of July for everyone.

Sincerely,

Dan Suttles
Chief of Police
Atascadero Police Department

Working together to **serve**, build **community** and enhance **quality of life**.