

Dear Friends ~

As you are all certainly aware, *it is that time of year again!* In the previous newsletter (#20 Nov. 10, 2016) there was a lot of information about our meeting with the Sheriff late last year, including what is planned by the Department for this July 4th.

The purpose of this newsletter is to let you know that we will be speaking before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) once again, this coming Tuesday (June 6). I apologize for the late notice. I hope some of you will be able to join us.

Recall that in an email to Lt. Ross, after our meeting with him and Chief Craig Wilson on Oct. 13th, we had asked about the status of the only citation issued last July 4th. We wanted to know if an issuing officer had to be in court if it was contested. Lt. Ross's response: ***The District Attorney declined to file charges.***

This is going to be our focus on Tuesday.

We are going to ask the BOS if they can do anything to intercede with the County District Attorney Jeffrey S. Rosell, who was appointed by them in late 2014 to fill a vacancy left by the death of DA Bob Lee.

Meanwhile, I have written to the DA to request a meeting with him. DA Rosell will be up for re-election in 2018. You can bet if he continues to undermine the fireworks ordinance by failing to file charges this year and/or next, we will have another campaign on our hands -- to convince residents to vote him out of office and vote for someone who will take the carnage by fireworks in our lives seriously.

We will do the same kind of campaign regarding the re-election of Sheriff Jim Hart in November 2018. As one of you wrote last year:

*"Sheriff Hart had said publicly that he has to take into consideration the folks who like fireworks. I'm sorry, that is not his job. His job is to enforce the law and cite those who blatantly violate the fireworks ordinance and to instruct his deputies that this is a priority. Every year deputies 'talk' to people blowing off fireworks on my street. Every year they are blowing off more fireworks. Fines work."*

On Tuesday, we are also going to remind the BOS that last July, even though they acted on our behalf, including committing funds (\$6,800 spent) for media releases and extra signage, directing the Planning Dept. to send letters to all vacation home property owners, and other specific actions, County law enforcement officers issued only one citation last year and the DA didn't even follow through.

Additionally we'll inform the BOS that in that meeting with Chief Craig Wilson and Lt. Jim Ross, we were assured by them that deputies will be issuing citations this 4th of July weekend. And that will be ***all the more reason*** that the DA should not be allowed to undermine the work of residents, law enforcement or the BOS.

We will remind the BOS what Sheriff Hart said in his report back to the BOS in September, 2016:

*"While we cannot say that these efforts reduced the use of illegal fireworks on the 4th of July holiday, we believe they represent a starting point for greater future compliance, were worthwhile and should be continued in 2017."*

Using Hart's language, we'll say that education was a "*starting point*" and now it is time for citations from deputies that are not dismissed by the DA.

Please join us on Tuesday, if you are able. The meeting starts at 9:00 am at the County Building (701 Ocean St. Rm 525) on the 5th floor BOS Chambers. However, Oral Communications probably won't begin until about 9:30, as they have to do the Consent Agenda first and there is always public testimony on some Consent Agenda items. In fact, there are so many controversial Consent Agenda items this time that Oral Communications may spill over after the scheduled 10:30 am break. No matter what, Michael and I will be there, ready to speak at Oral Communications, whenever it happens!

Last but not least, welcome to the newest supporters of our campaign. There are now 177 people receiving these alerts. Most of you have your names on our [Supporters web page](#). If you are unsure if yours is there and would like to have your name listed, simply reply to this email and we'll get you added.

Meanwhile, remember to always call in reports of fireworks in your neighborhoods. Every time. Use 911, whether you are a City or County resident. We need a record of fireworks and resident's complaints in order to back up our work.

Thanks to each and every one of you!

Jean Brocklebank  
Michael Lewis  
[Freedom From Fireworks](#)