

Hello All ~

There are now 147 of you receiving these email updates.

Results of Meeting With Sheriff

Many of you were at the meeting and all of you received our summary of what transpired. In addition, Rachel Wooster published an excellent, informative article about our campaign that is well worth reading in the Santa Cruz Mountain Bulletin, which can be read at: <http://mountainbulletin.com/article/new-group-works-to-solve-the-fireworks-problem/> Thank you, Rachel!

It took us a while to get the rest of the information we had requested from the Sheriff, but get it we did. And the year round fireworks statistics are *mighty interesting!* Total fireworks and fireworks hazmat calls for service for only the month of July increased from **360** in 2014 to **445** in 2015. Totals for each full year increased from **693** in 2014 to **819** (as of November 1st) in 2015. What these statistics mean is that year round fireworks exceed those on the 4th of July! This tells the story that all of you experience -- constant, chronic fireworks. You can view and/or download these statistics for yourselves by going to <http://freedomfromfireworks.weebly.com/education.html>.

Found Fireworks!

On November 2, we sent a report to Lt. Greg Lansdowne of the Sheriff Department. The report included pictures of the leftovers of fireworks that were found at Jose Avenue Park, from Halloween night. We wanted to reiterate that Jose Park is a hotspot that must be patrolled for illegal fireworks activity. Lt. Lansdowne replied: "*I will have patrol deputies walk and drive through Jose Avenue Park. Thank you for the information.*" I'll remind Lt. Lansdowne about patrolling on New Year's Eve and see if it will make a difference. See the November 2 report with pictures at <http://freedomfromfireworks.weebly.com/fireworks-reports.html>

Meeting with SC Police Department

Do you think the SC Police is anxious to meet about the topic of fireworks? If you reply no, you are right. Although it has been almost a month since we were informed by SCPD public relations spokeswoman, Joyce Blaschke, that we are in the queue to meet with them at the Community Meeting Room, we've yet to have a firm date.

I have an idea.

An email from a few of you, who reside in the City, not in the County, will certainly help! Send your email to **Officer Deeg**, who schedules the meeting room and with whom I first spoke on 10/20. Ask him to work on scheduling the meeting with officers about fireworks. Deeg's

email address is kdeeg@cityofsantacruz.com Ask for a meeting either in the third week of December or the first week in January. Copy your email to Joyce

Blaschke (JBlaschke@cityofsantacruz.com) and blind-copy to me (jeanbean@baymoon.com). Maybe this will help move them.

Alternatively, if any of you who are City residents have a special relationship with any SC Police officer, contact that officer and ask for his/her help in getting this meeting scheduled. Be sure to assure them that we want the meeting as informational, not confrontational, between us and them. Give them our web site <http://freedomfromfireworks.weebly.com/>.

Draft of Recommendations to BOS

Six of us met last Wednesday for a 2+ hour session to finalize a draft of our list of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Our basic recommendations are looking good. Clear, creative, workable, practical. When we get them completely honed to perfection, we will share them in the next e-newsletter and also put them up on our web site.

Our schedule continues to be presentation of these recommendations to the Board of Directors in mid-January.

Reminder About SB 522

Thanks so much to those who took the time to send an email of support for SB 522! To those who didn't, here is another plea to do so. Your email is the best thing you can do for this campaign right now. You will make a difference!

SB 522 will be reintroduced in the next legislative session after the first of the year. **Jacob Moss needs emails now!!!** He needs to develop a substantial folder to impress CA legislators of citizen support for the bill.

Send an email right away to jacob.moss@sen.ca.gov and convey two things: 1) your short, personal story of how you are plagued, harmed, or stressed by fireworks in your neighborhood and 2) your strong support for Mendoza's SB 522 as a way to help our community. Read details of the bill here: <http://freedomfromfireworks.weebly.com/call-to-action.html>

Facebook Page

Our FB page is not being updated right now, so please refer friends to the [FFF web site](#) only for news and information.

As always, feel free to forward this update to friends and neighbors! Encourage them to use the [Contact Us form](#) to become a part of this campaign. The more residents supporting this

campaign the stronger will be our voice to the County Board of Supervisors and to the SC City Council and SC Police Department.

Jean

[Freedom From Fireworks](#)