



City of Merced Fire Department

Derek Parker, Fire Chief

# Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Campaign 2023 Report

#### Education and Prevention Efforts

- Social media posts
  - Facebook and Instagram
- Radio spots
- Print media
- Television interviews
- Banners throughout town to deter the use of fireworks
- Message boards throughout the community
- Meetings with neighborhood groups to listen to concerns





#### Mitigation and Prevention Efforts

MERCED FIRE RESCUE

- Implementation of Property Owner Citations
  - No contact by MFD members
- Use of Merced Connect app by community members
  - Creates an email sent to members for investigation
  - Creates a tracking opportunity

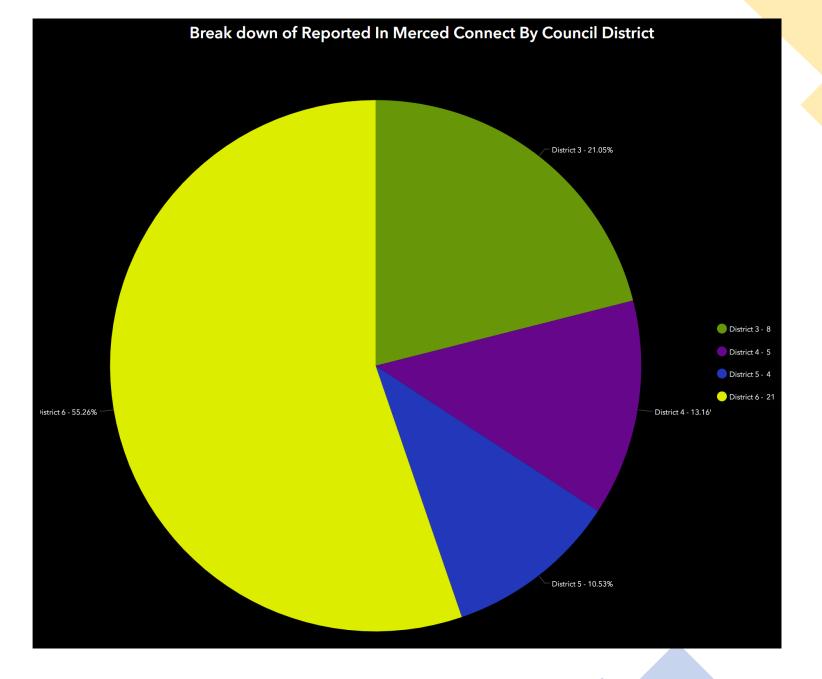


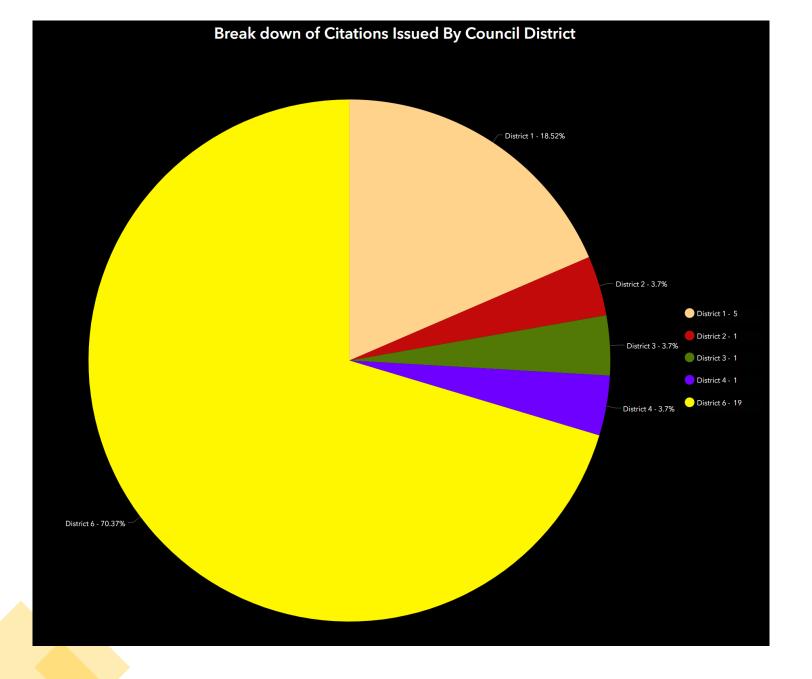
#### MPD Enforcement Efforts

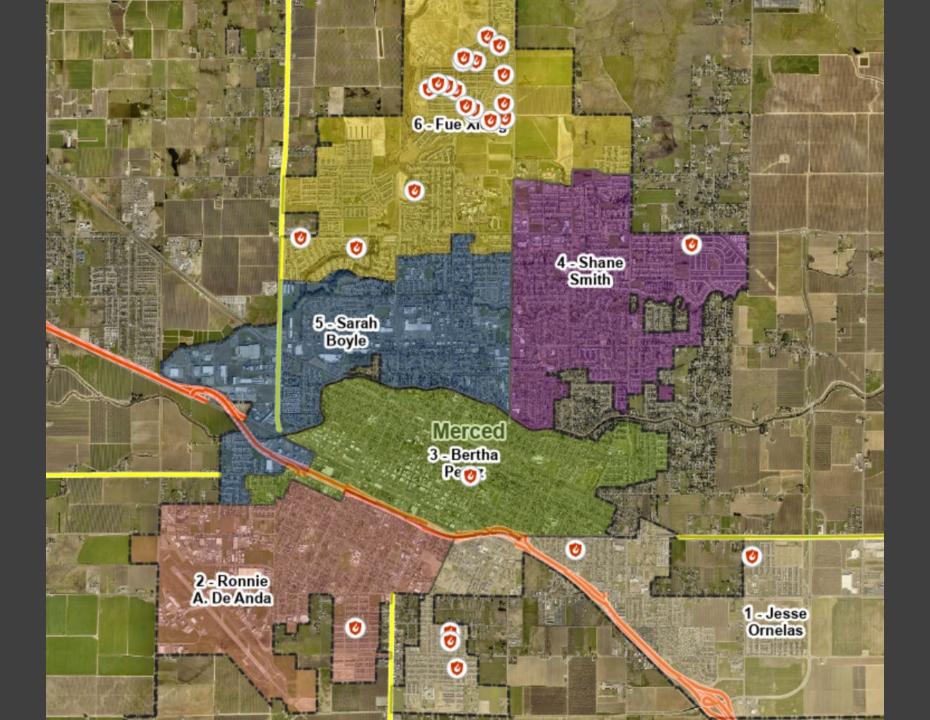
- Buy/Bust Operations
  - Disrupt and discourage the flow of illegal fireworks into the community
- Police Officer Staffing
  - Patrol shifts expanded to allow adequate personnel to respond to fireworks complaints.
- Expanded Dispatch Staffing
  - Dispatcher and community volunteers
- Bomb Squad
  - On call to respond as needed for dangerous explosives or modified fireworks.











### July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend Response



#### Fire Department Calls for Service

July 1 <sup>st</sup> – Saturday	July 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Sunday	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Monday	July 4 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday
Calls for service – 30	Calls for service – 33	Calls for service – 36	Calls for service – 32
Fires – 4	Fires – 1	Fires – 3	Fires – 15
Structure Fires – <b>0</b>	Structure Fires - 0	Structure Fires – 1	Structure Fires – <b>1</b>

#### Merced Connect & Celebrate Safe



## Fireworks Operation Response

Police Calls for Service			
Calls for service	159		
Buy/Bust Operations	1		
Arrests	2		
Citations	7		







## Celebrate Safe 2023