



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOURTH OF JULY 2009 HOLIDAY ENFORCEMENT

(San Diego) The San Diego Police Department has committed extra personnel to the beaches and bays over the 4th of July holiday weekend. It is anticipated that more than one million people will visit our beaches and bays between Friday, July 3 and Sunday, July 5. Northern and Western Division officers, members of the beach teams, the SDPD Harbor Unit, the mounted enforcement unit, motor officers, ABLE, retired senior volunteers, special event traffic controllers, and parking enforcement officers will be deployed throughout the beach areas. Officers will be patrolling the areas in cars, on foot, bicycles, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, horseback, boats and in the air making sure everyone who visits the beach areas during the holiday weekend has a safe and enjoyable experience. Officers will be both in uniform and in plain clothes.

In addition to beach and park enforcement, officers will conduct DUI saturation patrols in the beach areas and they will also enforce "Click It or Ticket."

Visitors and residents are reminded that the consumption or possession of an open alcoholic beverage is prohibited on San Diego's beaches and bays. The prohibited locations incorporate public areas including the sand, seawall, sidewalk, boardwalk, parking lots, parks, piers, jetties and public rights-of-way. For a detailed list where alcohol is not permitted, see San Diego Municipal Code Section 56.54 by visiting www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk.

There are more than 400 signs at the beach listing the rules and regulations. San Diego police officers, lifeguards and park rangers will issue citations for alcohol offenses committed during the holiday. The minimum penalty for a first offense is \$250.00

See pages two and three for further information regarding SDPD preparations for the 4th of July holiday period.

July 4, 2009 Media Briefing Sheet

SDPD will have command posts throughout the beach area. The primary command post will be at De Anza Cove, 2727 De Anza Road. This will be the central point of management on July 4.

Smaller command posts (Divisions) will be set up at the following locations:

Fiesta Island Division is responsible for Fiesta Island, the park of East Mission Bay, De Anza Cove and Park, South Shores Park, and Seaworld.

Belmont Division (west parking lot of 3000 Mission Blvd.) is responsible for the area within El Carmel Place south to the Mission Beach Jetty and including Mission Point, Bonita Cove, Mariners Point, Bahia Point, Belmont Park, El Carmel Place and the beaches, surface streets and parks within these boundaries.

Reed Division (700 Reed St.) is responsible for Mission Beach north of El Carmel Place to Tourmaline Surf Park, including the beaches, hotels and residences.

Fanuel / Sail Bay Division (foot of Fanuel St.) is responsible for the bayside from El Carmel and around the bay, including Sail Bay and Riviera Shores to Ingraham Street. This includes the residences along Pacific Beach Drive and Riviera Drive.

Ski Beach Division is responsible for Ski Beach, Crown Point, Crown Point Shores, Vacation Isle, Dana Landing Quivira Basin and the Hospitality Point area.

La Jolla Division (1100 Coast Blvd.) is responsible for the beaches and coves of La Jolla south of Torrey Pines State Beach to the north end of Tourmaline Surfing Park.

Ocean Beach Division (1900 Abbott Street) is responsible for policing the beach and cliff areas of Ocean Beach, Sunset Cliffs, Dog Beach, Robb Field & Dusty Rhodes Park.

SDPD has coordinated its preparation for the holiday period with the City's Park & Recreation Department, the SD Fire-Rescue Department, the Lifeguard Service, the California Highway Patrol, and the U.S. Coast Guard to ensure that everyone who visits the beaches and bays during the holiday weekend has a safe and enjoyable experience.

ROADWAYS and PARKING LOTS

Beach areas will be packed throughout the weekend, but especially on Saturday, July 4, when various permitted fireworks shows will draw larger crowds that will stay later than normal. Plan to arrive early, expect traffic delays, and bring plenty of patience.

A **map** showing hours for parking lots in the beach area is available at the SDPD web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/police/neighborhood/northern.shtml> (click on Beach Area Parking Locations).

Roadways and parking lots will be congested each day. Parking regulations will be strictly enforced. All parking laws, including meters and time zones will be enforced on Friday, July 3. Traffic cones will be in place to close roadways and parking lots, when necessary. It is illegal to drive through a cone pattern or to disobey the directions of a traffic control officer. Use common sense and follow the rules. If you park blocking roadways, alleys, bike lanes, or fire lanes, you will be ticketed and your vehicle will be impounded. If your vehicle is impounded, contact Star Towing at (858) 573-8700.

BICYCLES

Bicyclists must follow the rules of the road. That means obeying all signs and traffic control signals that apply to motorized vehicles. Bike riders who violate the law will be cited. A reminder: it is unlawful to operate a bicycle while impaired by alcohol or drugs; violators may be arrested.

PEDESTRIANS

It is illegal to cross against traffic signals, to jaywalk or to interfere with traffic. Pedestrians will be cited for hazardous violations.

AT THE BEACH

- **Smoking** on the sand, boardwalk or in park areas is prohibited.
- **Alcohol** possession or consumption of an open alcoholic container is prohibited in public areas including the sand, seawall, sidewalk, boardwalk, parking lots, parks, piers, jetties and public rights-of-way. Glass is not allowed.
- **Dogs** are not allowed on the beach or boardwalk between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Dogs must be on a leash and owners must pick up after their dogs.
- **Fencing** of areas to be saved is prohibited.
- **Tents** may be erected, but the side flaps must be up. Tents may not be left on the beach overnight to secure a spot for the next day; all unattended property will be collected by the Park & Recreation Department employees and taken to Fiesta Island, where it can be claimed by its owner.
- **Furniture** other than lawn chairs on the beach or in a park is prohibited.

MISSION BAY

It is illegal to operate **watercraft** while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The SDPD Harbor Unit will be on duty throughout the weekend along with Lifeguards.

ALL WATERWAYS (BEACHES AND BAY AREAS)

The SDPD Harbor Unit, the Lifeguards, and the US Coast Guard will be enforcing all applicable vessel and waterway laws to ensure the safety of those using these areas.

FIREWORKS

Fireworks are illegal throughout the city unless you possess a permit.

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