

CITY OF COSTA MESA
Fire Department

DATE: JUNE 16, 2004
TO: CITY COUNCIL VIA CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
FROM: JAMES M. ELLIS, FIRE CHIEF
SUBJECT: FIREWORKS INVESTIGATION

During the course of the Costa Mesa City Council Meeting of June 7, 2004, Council Member Libby Cowan requested the Fire Department visit grocery stores and drug stores to investigate packaging of what may be a firework or noisemakers, which sounds like fireworks when discharged.

On June 8 and 9, members of the Costa Mesa Fire Department visited all three Savons locations in Costa Mesa, Target, as well as three major grocery stores in search of fireworks or noisemakers. Fire department staff did find Noisemaker's "Party Poppers" and "Snap cap Snappers" in various amounts at each location.

The above mentioned items are listed in the California Administrative Code "Public Safety" Title 19, which states:

"General Party Poppers and Snap Caps as defined in Section 980, may be sold at retail outlets without requirement of a state fireworks retailer license or other retail sales restrictions so long as these party poppers are units of a particular manufacture and design which have been classified by the Office of State Fire Marshal"

The Party Poppers and Snap Caps found in these locations do contain a "Registered with the State of California Fire Marshal" Seal, and I have provided samples of these items to the City Manager's Office. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Fire Marshal Macduff.

JE:scl
(JE-CC-CM)

