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For Immediate Release:

**BROCKTON POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENTS FORM JOINT TASK FORCE
AGAINST ILLEGAL FIREWORKS**

The task force has implemented a new hotline for anonymous fireworks tips from residents

BROCKTON, MA – As the summer approaches, the Brockton Police Department and Brockton Fire Department are forming a joint task force to address the sale, possession, and use of illegal fireworks within the City of Brockton. Mayor Robert Sullivan made the announcement.

The task force has created a new fireworks hotline for residents to anonymously report incidents of illegal firework usage. To report an incident residents are encouraged to call 508-941-0244 and leave a detailed message with the following information:

- Information regarding individuals selling illegal fireworks or in possession of any quantity of illegal fireworks.
- Information regarding specific physical addresses (street name and house number) where fireworks are being stored, set off, or originating from.
- Any other information that can assist the BPD & BFD in interdicting illegal fireworks and protecting the safety of our neighborhoods while improving the quality of life of our citizens.

The goal of the joint task force is to address and interdict the dangerous, illegal possession and use of fireworks that have recently resulted in the quality of life issues. Additionally, the use of illegal fireworks has resulted in personal injuries, building fires, and open field/brush fires.

“Illegal firework usage cannot be tolerated in our City,” said Mayor Robert Sullivan. “The formation of this task force and the implementation of the fireworks hotline will assist the City in eliminating illegal fireworks usage in addition to protecting our residents.”

“The safety of the citizens of Brockton is important to the Police Department,” said Brockton Police Chief Brenda Perez. “Fireworks are responsible for thousands of injuries and property damage nationally, so we will be policing the illegal use, possession, and sale of fireworks.”

“I’m proud to join with our brothers and sisters in the Brockton Police Department on this new fireworks task force,” said Brockton Fire Chief Brian Nardelli. “As public safety officials, it is crucial that we are proactive in protecting our residents from whatever may bring them harm.”

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