

# Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

## Press Release

**Subject: Fire Investigators Seize Illegal Fireworks from Concord Liquor Store**

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The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District's Fire Investigation Unit received a phone call today from the relative of an 11 year old boy reporting that her grandson had recently purchased "smoke bombs" from a liquor store in the 1500 block of Monument Blvd. in Concord. She was concerned not only that her grandson, a minor, had them in his possession, but that a liquor store was selling them.

A Fire Investigator was sent to the liquor store and confirmed they did have listed "safe and sane" smoke bombs for sale. The store claimed they did not know fireworks were illegal in Contra Costa County and claimed a vendor had been selling the product to them for over a year. The smoke bombs were confiscated by the Fire Investigator. The liquor store employees were cooperative and a total of 137 smoke bombs were confiscated. The investigation is on-going as to whether or not formal charges will be filed against the store, the employees involved, or the fireworks vendor for possessing the fireworks and selling them to a minor.

This should be a reminder to all parents and retail businesses that the possession or sale of **ALL** fireworks is illegal in Contra Costa County. This includes "safe and sane" fireworks purchased outside of the county. Possession of fireworks is a misdemeanor and possession of any fireworks that produce a loud bang or are capable of shooting up into the air is a felony.

