



**COUNTY OF LAKE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Jeff Smith – District 2

Jim Steele – District 3

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July 17, 2018

Lakeport City Council
225 Park Street
Lakeport, CA. 95354

To the Honorable Members of the Lakeport City Council,

As fellow citizens of our beautiful, rural Lake County, your Council is no doubt aware that over the past 4 fire seasons, we have been ravaged by seemingly relentless wildfire disasters resulting in the loss of more than 1,800 homes, equating to 5.5% of our housing stock County-wide, and more than a quarter of our total land mass.

During prior seasons, the devastating fires erupted late in the summer/fall but that changed this year when the Pawnee Fire broke out in rural Spring Valley in June, causing even more suffering and loss to local residents. Firefighters have commented that our grasslands are drier now than they were during prior fire seasons in September/October. The risk of further disaster has only begun for Lake County residents during this summer and fall of 2018. Our citizens have been severely impacted and traumatized, all of which is immediately retriggered at even the suggestion of fire.

While our Board understands your placement of a ballot measure, some years back, which lead to the selling of fireworks in the City limits by local service groups, we feel strongly that such practice should end, in light of all the wildfires past and present, and extreme risk of more.

We understand that on July 17, 2018, you will be discussing the possibility of a new ballot measure to ask the voters to ban the sale of fireworks in Lakeport and we are resolute in our support for such a ban as the risks far outweigh the benefit. It is incumbent on all of us, as leaders of our communities, to do everything we can to prevent this devastation from reoccurring.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Lake County Board of Supervisors

Moke Simon, District One Supervisor

Jeff Smith, District Two Supervisor

Jim Steele, District Three Supervisor

Tina Scott, District Four Supervisor

Rob Brown, District Five Supervisor