



SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1856

NEWS RELEASE

Incident Date: June 23, 2021

Location: San Mateo County, San Francisco County, Alameda County, Santa Clara County

Type of Crime/Incident: 12676 HS – Sales of Dangerous Fireworks (Excess of 100 lbs.)
12677 HS – Poss. of Dangerous Fireworks (Excess of 100 lbs.)
12305 HS – Poss. of Explosive Device
12700(3) HS – Poss. of Dangerous Fireworks over 5,000 lbs.

Suspects: **Sam San (61 Years Old)**
Jennifer Nguyen (54 Years Old)

Summary: During the months of May and June, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) Detectives initiated an investigation into a major distribution line of illegal fireworks. During the investigation, two suspects were identified as San Francisco resident Sam San and San Jose resident Jennifer Nguyen. CSU Detectives ultimately linked San and Nguyen to the sales of fireworks in San Mateo County. Through surveillance, CSU Detectives identified two residences and a warehouse in Oakland associated to the operation.

On 06/23/2021 and 06/24/2021, CSU Detectives executed numerous search warrants in San Mateo County, San Francisco County, Alameda County, and Santa Clara County. The investigation resulted in the seizure of approximately **15,000 pounds** of illegal fireworks and approximately **\$1,000,000** in cash. San was booked into San Mateo County Jail and charges are currently being filed against Nguyen for her involvement.

There have been numerous complaints about the use of illegal fireworks this year and the Sheriff's Office is working on ways to deter the sales and use of them in our communities. Through criminal investigations and promoting community awareness, the Sheriff's Office is hoping for a safe Fourth of July holiday where the fireworks are left to the professionals.

As a reminder **ALL** fireworks are **ILLEGAL** in unincorporated areas within San Mateo County as well as Sheriff's Office contract cities and towns and fines can be issued up to **\$1,000**. Please do not call 911 to report fireworks, instead call our non-emergency line at 650-363-4911. Don't take the risk! Keep your family and community safe!



Special thanks to the San Francisco Police Department, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad, San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force, and the San Mateo County Air Squadron for their assistance in this investigation.

Written by: Sergeant Mike Leishman – Crime Suppression Unit

Case #: 21-04993
Release Date: 6/24/2021

