



July 26, 2024

The Honorable Anne-Christine Massullo
Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
400 McAllister Street, Room 008
San Francisco, CA 94102-4512

Dear Judge Massullo,

In accordance with Penal Code 933 and 933.05, the following is in response to the 2024-2025 Civil Grand Jury Report, "*Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco.*" I would like to thank the members of the 2023-2024 Civil Grand Jury for their interest in the health, safety, and well-being of our residents and families.

I agree that illegal fireworks pose serious public safety challenges for our communities. Beyond just the fact of the fireworks themselves, the events and gatherings that surround the fireworks can grow to include more insidious illicit activity, including sideshows and stunt driving, other explosives, and violence. Upon the release of your report and prior to the July 4, 2024 holiday, the named departments did coordinate to improve their messaging and response plan, with significant success, and I appreciate the Jury's role in that improvement.

Despite agreeing that we can and must do more to improve coordination in response to this challenge, I will not be implementing the Jury's recommendations to form an additional working group with annual reporting. Our departments coordinate closely to take an evidence-based approach to fireworks response, and they operationalize that work within the limitations of their staffing levels. Additional process and reporting will increase the administrative burden of these public safety services, which may be counterproductive. I will, however, ensure that our agencies continually examine and improve our response in alignment with the best practices and updated data, in accordance with the Jury's report.

A detailed response from the Mayor's Office, the Fire Department, Police Department, the Department of Emergency Management, the City Administrator, and the Controller's Office is attached.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Civil Grand Jury report findings and recommendations. I have tasked the Department of Emergency Management with continuing to coordinate and strengthen our response to these dangerous events. We are committed to improving the City's response to illegal fireworks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "London Breed".

London N. Breed
Mayor

1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE, ROOM 200
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-4681
TELEPHONE: (415) 554-6141



Greg Wagner
Controller



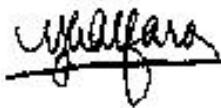
Mary Ellen Carroll
Executive Director, Department of Emergency Management



William Scott
Chief of Police



Jeanine Nicholson
Chief, Fire Department



Nancy Alfaro
Director, 311 Customer Service Center

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	F#	Finding	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Finding Response (Agree/ Disagree)	Finding Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F1	Because the city fails to coordinate its actions among affected departments to stop the usage of illegal fireworks, and lacks a comprehensive and aggressive strategy for combating them, the residents, pets, wildlife and environment of San Francisco are harmed and often endangered.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	City preparation and response for illegal fireworks is coordinated across departments, especially for anticipated events such as New Year's Eve or July 4. This strategy prioritizes preventing violence, injury, and more egregious criminal activity. As such, the response to fireworks-only calls may receive a lower-priority response.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F2	The conflicting public messaging on the reporting of illegal fireworks activity needs to be addressed so the public has clear and consistent instructions on how to report illegal fireworks activity.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Agree	
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F3	Due to the lack of a coordinated effort and strategy for public education and engagement of the neighborhood communities about the scope and breadth of fireworks hazards, illegal firework usage continues to cause harm to people, pets, wildlife and the environment.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City engages in significant public education about the hazards of illegal fireworks, and has recently improved its engagement with regard to messaging. However, it is evident that the engagement has not sufficiently reduced the deployment of illegal fireworks, and additional engagement may improve the situation.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F4	The city's failure to control the deployment of illegal fireworks and the public's presence at known hotspots where illegal fireworks activity regularly occurs results in dangerous situations which have the potential for injury and fire.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City has not succeeded in controlling illegal firework deployment. While we continue to pursue a significant reduction in firework deployment, we dispute that this is an achievable goal; illegal firework deployment is a rampant problem across many cities. Furthermore, the City lacks the legal authority to shut down public spaces based on historical firework data.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F5	The city’s failure to identify, gather and monitor official metrics on the occurrence of illegal fireworks blocks understanding of the nature and importance of the issue to the city’s residents, pets and the environment.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Agree	Department data regarding illegal fireworks is inconsistent, and should be standardized and centralized for improved public reporting and safety.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.1 [for F1]	By October 1, 2024, the Mayor’s Office shall create an Illegal Fireworks Working Group.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	The working group is duplicative to other efforts; the City believes that the existing efforts are sufficient for both communications and operational planning.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.2 [for F1]	The Working Group shall include representatives from the SF Fire Department (SFFD), the SF Police Department (SFPD), the Division of Emergency Communication in the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Performance Program Team in the Controller’s Office, and the 311 Customer Service Center (311) in the City Administrator’s Office. In addition, representatives from other departments impacted by illegal fireworks such as, but not limited to, the Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Recreation and Park Department, Department of Animal Care and Control, Environment Department and the District Attorney, may be invited to join as well.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. The named departments will continue to convene as they have, and will include additional departments as appropriate on an ad-hoc basis.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.3 [for F1]	The Working Group shall be chaired and led by the representative from DEM.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. DEM currently coordinates the existing meeting structure.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.4 [for F1]	The Working Group shall publish a report on illegal fireworks to the Mayor's Office and the heads of the principally impacted departments including SFPD, SFFD, DEM, the City Administrator's Office (311) and the Controller's Office (Performance Program team) no later than two months after each July 4th which contains data from the identified metrics, reports on educational efforts and community engagements, identifies any improvements made by departments, and makes recommendations for improving the city's efforts to address the illegal fireworks problem.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. The coordinated Departments will conduct a post-mortem meeting to review challenges and successes after July 4, New Years Eve, and other relevant occasions. Any updates to operational protocol may be shared out at relevant public meetings. The staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.5 [for F1]	The Working Group shall hold a public meeting on the report on illegal fireworks no earlier than 10 days and no later than 30 days after the report is published. This meeting shall discuss the results of the report and gather input from the public.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. Departments are always available to attend an individual hearing based on the findings and work of our departments, as requested by the Board of Supervisors or other oversight bodies.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.6 [for F1]	Commencing in 2025, the Working Group shall meet at least three times per calendar year, preferably two to three months prior to the major holidays of 4th of July and New Year's day plus a meeting to plan and prepare its annual report.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. Departments will continue to meet as necessary in advance of those major events, but not as a formal Working Group. They will not prepare an annual report.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.7 [for F1]	The Working Group shall aid in the coordination and implementation of any recommendations and training that arise from CA Assembly Bill 1403.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	DEM and partner departments will aid in said coordination, outside of the working group structure.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R2 [for F2]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between the DEM, 311, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and aid in the implementation of public messaging that provides robust, consistent and clear instructions to the public on the preferred way to contact the city about reporting of illegal fireworks the issues and the information to be provided when making reports. Such public messaging shall be designed and published by March 31, 2025.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	After the release of this CGJ report, the relevant departments met to improve and streamline messaging and public education in advance of July 4, 2024. The City will continue to iterate on those findings. Please see attached materials.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.1 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and facilitate the publication and distribution of educational materials on the dangers to self, harms to others and the environment, and the laws and penalties associated with illegal fireworks. Such information shall be designed and published by May 1, 2025.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	This has partly already been implemented; additional materials are in development and will be distributed by May 2025.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.2 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall identify and implement public engagement opportunities with community leaders to enlist their aid in educating their fellow residents about the illegal fireworks issue and encouraging them to “say something when they see something”.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	DEM will spearhead the work to develop a community-based public engagement strategy. However, this engagement will give more nuanced guidance than "if you see something, say something," as this conflicts with operational strategy and contributes to public confusion.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.1 [for F4]	The Working Group or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall identify and implement strategies to prevent large gatherings at known hotspots where illegal fireworks are deployed around known problematic holidays and events. Information concerning what strategies have been employed shall be included in the Working Group’s annual report.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	To the extent possible, the City shall continue to use a data-driven approach to deploy visible law enforcement and public safety presence to deter large gatherings. Given logistical, safety, and civil liberties considerations, the City is unlikely to preemptively disband or block large gatherings in known activity areas.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.2 [for F4]	The Working Group, or if the city fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall research and monitor solutions implemented by other municipalities and analyze past efforts within the city, such as Operation Kaboom.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	Departments have and continuously reevaluate efforts and determined that San Francisco has such a different set of circumstances that implementation of other efforts would not be effective.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.3 [for F4]	The Working Group, or if the city fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall publish recommendations in its Annual Report based on its research of other municipalities to determine what approaches would likely be effective to reduce illegal fireworks usage in the city’s hotspots as well as the neighborhoods.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	While the City will continuously monitor surrounding municipalities for effective approaches, and incorporate those findings into City operations, the staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments. Departments are always available to attend an individual hearing based on the findings and work of our departments, as requested by the Board of Supervisors or other oversight bodies.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R5.1 [for F5]	By December 1, 2024, the Controller’s Office shall instruct its Performance Program Team to identify meaningful illegal fireworks data and require impacted departments in public health and public safety to collect it. “Meaningful data” would include such items as the number and types of injuries caused by fireworks, the number of calls for fires started by fireworks, the number of fires started by fireworks, the number of calls for firework specific noise complaints, the number of calls for police to stop active deployments of fireworks, the number of citations issued, the number of fines issued, the number of arrests made, the number of prosecutions and convictions, the number of community meetings held on the topic, the number of educational talks given on the topic, the amount (in pounds) of illegal fireworks confiscated, the amount (in dollars) in fines collected, and the amount (in dollars) of property damage caused by illegal fireworks, and the amount (in dollars) of content loss caused by	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	The Controller's Office City Performance team is available to provide support to DEM, Fire Department, and Police as requested based on existing datasets. The City shall work to incorporate information about 911 and 311 calls, as well as personal injuries or property damage resulting from illegal fireworks. Some of the proposed metrics may impose an undue logistical burden on the departments.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R5.2 [for F5]	The Performance Program Team shall collaborate with the relevant departments to identify and collect those metrics which matter most to the public and which can reasonably be collected.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	The Controller's Office City Performance team is available to provide support to DEM, FIR & POL as requested based on existing datasets. Additional data will be considered through this analysis.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R5.3 [for F5]	The Performance Program team shall include those metrics which provide citizens and policymakers with information relevant to illegal fireworks in their Annual Performance Report.	Mayor [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	The Controller's Office City Performance team is available to provide support to DEM, FIR & POL as requested based on existing datasets. CON will include any relevant and helpful information in their Annual Performance Report, to the extent that the Departments do not find the data to be misleading or incomplete.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F2	The conflicting public messaging on the reporting of illegal fireworks activity needs to be addressed so the public has clear and consistent instructions on how to report illegal fireworks activity.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Agree	
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F3	Due to the lack of a coordinated effort and strategy for public education and engagement of the neighborhood communities about the scope and breadth of fireworks hazards, illegal firework usage continues to cause harm to people, pets, wildlife and the environment.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City engages in significant public education about the hazards of illegal fireworks, and has recently improved its engagement with regard to messaging. However, it is evident that the engagement has not sufficiently reduced the deployment of illegal fireworks, and additional engagement may improve the situation.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F4	The city's failure to control the deployment of illegal fireworks and the public's presence at known hotspots where illegal fireworks activity regularly occurs results in dangerous situations which have the potential for injury and fire.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City has not succeeded in controlling illegal firework deployment. While we continue to pursue a significant reduction in firework deployment, we dispute that this is an achievable goal; illegal firework deployment is a rampant problem across many cities. Furthermore, the City lacks the legal authority to shut down public spaces based on historical firework data.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.3 [for F1]	The Working Group shall be chaired and led by the representative from DEM.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. DEM currently coordinates the existing meeting structure.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.5 [for F1]	The Working Group shall hold a public meeting on the report on illegal fireworks no earlier than 10 days and no later than 30 days after the report is published. This meeting shall discuss the results of the report and gather input from the public.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. Departments are always available to attend an individual hearing based on the findings and work of our departments, as requested by the Board of Supervisors or other oversight bodies.
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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.7 [for F1]	The Working Group shall aid in the coordination and implementation of any recommendations and training that arise from CA Assembly Bill 1403.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	DEM and partner departments will aid in said coordination, outside of the working group structure.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R2 [for F2]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between the DEM, 311, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and aid in the implementation of public messaging that provides robust, consistent and clear instructions to the public on the preferred way to contact the city about reporting of illegal fireworks the issues and the information to be provided when making reports. Such public messaging shall be designed and published by March 31, 2025.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	After the release of this CGJ report, the relevant departments met to improve and streamline messaging and public education in advance of July 4, 2024. The City will continue to iterate on those findings. Please see attached materials.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.1 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and facilitate the publication and distribution of educational materials on the dangers to self, harms to others and the environment, and the laws and penalties associated with illegal fireworks. Such information shall be designed and published by May 1, 2025.	Department of Emergency Management [July 27, 2024]	Has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future	This has partly already been implemented; additional materials are in development and will be distributed by May 2025.

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Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F2	The conflicting public messaging on the reporting of illegal fireworks activity needs to be addressed so the public has clear and consistent instructions on how to report illegal fireworks activity.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Agree	
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F3	Due to the lack of a coordinated effort and strategy for public education and engagement of the neighborhood communities about the scope and breadth of fireworks hazards, illegal firework usage continues to cause harm to people, pets, wildlife and the environment.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City engages in significant public education about the hazards of illegal fireworks, and has recently improved its engagement with regard to messaging. However, it is evident that the engagement has not sufficiently reduced the deployment of illegal fireworks, and additional engagement may improve the situation.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F4	The city's failure to control the deployment of illegal fireworks and the public's presence at known hotspots where illegal fireworks activity regularly occurs results in dangerous situations which have the potential for injury and fire.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City has not succeeded in controlling illegal firework deployment. While we continue to pursue a significant reduction in firework deployment, we dispute that this is an achievable goal; illegal firework deployment is a rampant problem across many cities. Furthermore, the City lacks the legal authority to shut down public spaces based on historical firework data.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.2 [for F1]	The Working Group shall include representatives from the SF Fire Department (SFFD), the SF Police Department (SFPD), the Division of Emergency Communication in the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Performance Program Team in the Controller’s Office, and the 311 Customer Service Center (311) in the City Administrator’s Office. In addition, representatives from other departments impacted by illegal fireworks such as, but not limited to, the Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Recreation and Park Department, Department of Animal Care and Control, Environment Department and the District Attorney, may be invited to join as well.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.1. The named departments will continue to convene as they have, and will include additional departments as appropriate on an ad-hoc basis.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.4 [for F1]	The Working Group shall publish a report on illegal fireworks to the Mayor’s Office and the heads of the principally impacted departments including SFPD, SFFD, DEM, the City Administrator’s Office (311) and the Controller’s Office (Performance Program team) no later than two months after each July 4th which contains data from the identified metrics, reports on educational efforts and community engagements, identifies any improvements made by departments, and makes recommendations for improving the city’s efforts to address the illegal fireworks problem.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See above. The named departments will continue to convene as they have, and will include additional departments as appropriate on an ad-hoc basis.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R2 [for F2]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between the DEM, 311, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and aid in the implementation of public messaging that provides robust, consistent and clear instructions to the public on the preferred way to contact the city about reporting of illegal fireworks the issues and the information to be provided when making reports. Such public messaging shall be designed and published by March 31, 2025.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	After the release of this CGJ report, the relevant departments met to improve and streamline messaging and public education in advance of July 4, 2024. The City will continue to iterate on those findings. Please see attached materials.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.1 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and facilitate the publication and distribution of educational materials on the dangers to self, harms to others and the environment, and the laws and penalties associated with illegal fireworks. Such information shall be designed and published by May 1, 2025.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future	This has partly already been implemented; additional materials are in development and will be distributed by May 2025.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.2 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall identify and implement public engagement opportunities with community leaders to enlist their aid in educating their fellow residents about the illegal fireworks issue and encouraging them to “say something when they see something”.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	DEM will spearhead the work to develop a community-based public engagement strategy. However, this engagement will give more nuanced guidance than "if you see something, say something," as this conflicts with operational strategy and contributes to public confusion.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.1 [for F4]	The Working Group or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall identify and implement strategies to prevent large gatherings at known hotspots where illegal fireworks are deployed around known problematic holidays and events. Information concerning what strategies have been employed shall be included in the Working Group’s annual report.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	To the extent possible, the City shall continue to use a data-driven approach to deploy visible law enforcement and public safety presence to deter large gatherings. Given logistical, safety, and civil liberties considerations, the City is unlikely to preemptively disband or block large gatherings in known activity areas.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.2 [for F4]	The Working Group, or if the city fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall research and monitor solutions implemented by other municipalities and analyze past efforts within the city, such as Operation Kaboom.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	Departments have and continuously reevaluate efforts and determined that San Francisco has such a different set of circumstances that implementation of other efforts would not be effective.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.3 [for F4]	The Working Group, or if the city fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall publish recommendations in its Annual Report based on its research of other municipalities to determine what approaches would likely be effective to reduce illegal fireworks usage in the city’s hotspots as well as the neighborhoods.	San Francisco Fire Department [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	While the City will continuously monitor surrounding municipalities for effective approaches, and incorporate those findings into City operations, the staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments. Departments are always available to attend an individual hearing based on the findings and work of our departments, as requested by the Board of Supervisors or other oversight bodies.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	F#	Finding	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Finding Response (Agree/ Disagree)	Finding Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F1	Because the city fails to coordinate its actions among affected departments to stop the usage of illegal fireworks, and lacks a comprehensive and aggressive strategy for combating them, the residents, pets, wildlife and environment of San Francisco are harmed and often endangered.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	City preparation and response for illegal fireworks is coordinated across departments, especially for anticipated events such as New Year's Eve or July 4. This strategy prioritizes preventing violence, injury, and more egregious criminal activity. As such, the response to fireworks-only calls may receive a lower-priority response.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F2	The conflicting public messaging on the reporting of illegal fireworks activity needs to be addressed so the public has clear and consistent instructions on how to report illegal fireworks activity.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Agree	
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F3	Due to the lack of a coordinated effort and strategy for public education and engagement of the neighborhood communities about the scope and breadth of fireworks hazards, illegal firework usage continues to cause harm to people, pets, wildlife and the environment.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City engages in significant public education about the hazards of illegal fireworks, and has recently improved its engagement with regard to messaging. However, it is evident that the engagement has not sufficiently reduced the deployment of illegal fireworks, and additional engagement may improve the situation.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F4	The city's failure to control the deployment of illegal fireworks and the public's presence at known hotspots where illegal fireworks activity regularly occurs results in dangerous situations which have the potential for injury and fire.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	The City has not succeeded in controlling illegal firework deployment. While we continue to pursue a significant reduction in firework deployment, we dispute that this is an achievable goal; illegal firework deployment is a rampant problem across many cities. Furthermore, the City lacks the legal authority to shut down public spaces based on historical firework data.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.2 [for F1]	The Working Group shall include representatives from the SF Fire Department (SFFD), the SF Police Department (SFPD), the Division of Emergency Communication in the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Performance Program Team in the Controller’s Office, and the 311 Customer Service Center (311) in the City Administrator’s Office. In addition, representatives from other departments impacted by illegal fireworks such as, but not limited to, the Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Recreation and Park Department, Department of Animal Care and Control, Environment Department and the District Attorney, may be invited to join as well.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.1. The named departments will continue to convene as they have, and will include additional departments as appropriate on an ad-hoc basis.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.4 [for F1]	The Working Group shall publish a report on illegal fireworks to the Mayor’s Office and the heads of the principally impacted departments including SFPD, SFFD, DEM, the City Administrator’s Office (311) and the Controller’s Office (Performance Program team) no later than two months after each July 4th which contains data from the identified metrics, reports on educational efforts and community engagements, identifies any improvements made by departments, and makes recommendations for improving the city’s efforts to address the illegal fireworks problem.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.3. The coordinated Departments will conduct a post-mortem meeting to review challenges and successes after July 4, New Years Eve, and other relevant occasions. Any updates to operational protocol may be shared out at relevant public meetings. The staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R2 [for F2]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between the DEM, 311, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and aid in the implementation of public messaging that provides robust, consistent and clear instructions to the public on the preferred way to contact the city about reporting of illegal fireworks the issues and the information to be provided when making reports. Such public messaging shall be designed and published by March 31, 2025.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	After the release of this CGJ report, the relevant departments met to improve and streamline messaging and public education in advance of July 4, 2024. The City will continue to iterate on those findings. Please see attached materials.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.1 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and facilitate the publication and distribution of educational materials on the dangers to self, harms to others and the environment, and the laws and penalties associated with illegal fireworks. Such information shall be designed and published by May 1, 2025.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future	This has partly already been implemented; additional materials are in development and will be distributed by May 2025.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R3.2 [for F3]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall identify and implement public engagement opportunities with community leaders to enlist their aid in educating their fellow residents about the illegal fireworks issue and encouraging them to “say something when they see something”.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	DEM will spearhead the work to develop a community-based public engagement strategy. However, this engagement will give more nuanced guidance than "if you see something, say something," as this conflicts with operational strategy and contributes to public confusion.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.1 [for F4]	The Working Group or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall identify and implement strategies to prevent large gatherings at known hotspots where illegal fireworks are deployed around known problematic holidays and events. Information concerning what strategies have been employed shall be included in the Working Group’s annual report.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	To the extent possible, the City shall continue to use a data-driven approach to deploy visible law enforcement and public safety presence to deter large gatherings. Given logistical, safety, and civil liberties considerations, the City is unlikely to preemptively disband or block large gatherings in known activity areas.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.2 [for F4]	The Working Group, or if the city fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall research and monitor solutions implemented by other municipalities and analyze past efforts within the city, such as Operation Kaboom.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	Departments have and continuously reevaluate efforts and determined that San Francisco has such a different set of circumstances that implementation of other efforts would not be effective.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R4.3 [for F4]	The Working Group, or if the city fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between at least the DEM, Fire, and Police departments, shall publish recommendations in its Annual Report based on its research of other municipalities to determine what approaches would likely be effective to reduce illegal fireworks usage in the city’s hotspots as well as the neighborhoods.	San Francisco Police Department [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	While the City will continuously monitor surrounding municipalities for effective approaches, and incorporate those findings into City operations, the staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments. Departments are always available to attend an individual hearing based on the findings and work of our departments, as requested by the Board of Supervisors or other oversight bodies.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	F#	Finding	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Finding Response (Agree/ Disagree)	Finding Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F1	Because the city fails to coordinate its actions among affected departments to stop the usage of illegal fireworks, and lacks a comprehensive and aggressive strategy for combating them, the residents, pets, wildlife and environment of San Francisco are harmed and often endangered.	311 Customer Service Center [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	City preparation and response for illegal fireworks is coordinated across departments, especially for anticipated events such as New Year's Eve or July 4. This strategy prioritizes preventing violence, injury, and more egregious criminal activity. As such, the response to fireworks-only calls may receive a lower-priority response.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F2	The conflicting public messaging on the reporting of illegal fireworks activity needs to be addressed so the public has clear and consistent instructions on how to report illegal fireworks activity.	311 Customer Service Center [July 27, 2024]	Agree	

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.2 [for F1]	The Working Group shall include representatives from the SF Fire Department (SFFD), the SF Police Department (SFPD), the Division of Emergency Communication in the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Performance Program Team in the Controller’s Office, and the 311 Customer Service Center (311) in the City Administrator’s Office. In addition, representatives from other departments impacted by illegal fireworks such as, but not limited to, the Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Recreation and Park Department, Department of Animal Care and Control, Environment Department and the District Attorney, may be invited to join as well.	311 Customer Service Center [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.1. The named departments will continue to convene as they have, and will include additional departments as appropriate on an ad-hoc basis.

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Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.4 [for F1]	The Working Group shall publish a report on illegal fireworks to the Mayor’s Office and the heads of the principally impacted departments including SFPD, SFFD, DEM, the City Administrator’s Office (311) and the Controller’s Office (Performance Program team) no later than two months after each July 4th which contains data from the identified metrics, reports on educational efforts and community engagements, identifies any improvements made by departments, and makes recommendations for improving the city’s efforts to address the illegal fireworks problem.	311 Customer Service Center [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.3. The coordinated Departments will conduct a post-mortem meeting to review challenges and successes after July 4, New Years Eve, and other relevant occasions. Any updates to operational protocol may be shared out at relevant public meetings. The staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R2 [for F2]	The Working Group, or if the City fails to implement such Group then another separate collaboration between the DEM, 311, Fire, and Police departments, shall develop and aid in the implementation of public messaging that provides robust, consistent and clear instructions to the public on the preferred way to contact the city about reporting of illegal fireworks the issues and the information to be provided when making reports. Such public messaging shall be designed and published by March 31, 2025.	311 Customer Service Center [July 27, 2024]	Has been implemented	After the release of this CGJ report, the relevant departments met to improve and streamline messaging and public education in advance of July 4, 2024. The City will continue to iterate on those findings. Please see attached materials.

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Report Title [Publication Date]	F#	Finding	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Finding Response (Agree/ Disagree)	Finding Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F1	Because the city fails to coordinate its actions among affected departments to stop the usage of illegal fireworks, and lacks a comprehensive and aggressive strategy for combating them, the residents, pets, wildlife and environment of San Francisco are harmed and often endangered.	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Disagree partially	City preparation and response for illegal fireworks is coordinated across departments, especially for anticipated events such as New Year's Eve or July 4. This strategy prioritizes preventing violence, injury, and more egregious criminal activity. As such, the response to fireworks-only calls may receive a lower-priority response.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	F5	The city's failure to identify, gather and monitor official metrics on the occurrence of illegal fireworks blocks understanding of the nature and importance of the issue to the city's residents, pets and the environment.	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Agree	Department data regarding illegal fireworks is inconsistent, and should be standardized and centralized for improved public reporting and safety.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.2 [for F1]	The Working Group shall include representatives from the SF Fire Department (SFFD), the SF Police Department (SFPD), the Division of Emergency Communication in the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Performance Program Team in the Controller’s Office, and the 311 Customer Service Center (311) in the City Administrator’s Office. In addition, representatives from other departments impacted by illegal fireworks such as, but not limited to, the Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Recreation and Park Department, Department of Animal Care and Control, Environment Department and the District Attorney, may be invited to join as well.	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.1. The named departments will continue to convene as they have, and will include additional departments as appropriate on an ad-hoc basis.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R1.4 [for F1]	The Working Group shall publish a report on illegal fireworks to the Mayor’s Office and the heads of the principally impacted departments including SFPD, SFFD, DEM, the City Administrator’s Office (311) and the Controller’s Office (Performance Program team) no later than two months after each July 4th which contains data from the identified metrics, reports on educational efforts and community engagements, identifies any improvements made by departments, and makes recommendations for improving the city’s efforts to address the illegal fireworks problem.	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable	See R1.3. The coordinated Departments will conduct a post-mortem meeting to review challenges and successes after July 4, New Years Eve, and other relevant occasions. Any updates to operational protocol may be shared out at relevant public meetings. The staff time required for an official Annual Report would likely detract from the operational focus of these departments.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R5.1 [for F5]	By December 1, 2024, the Controller’s Office shall instruct its Performance Program Team to identify meaningful illegal fireworks data and require impacted departments in public health and public safety to collect it. “Meaningful data” would include such items as the number and types of injuries caused by fireworks, the number of calls for fires started by fireworks, the number of fires started by fireworks, the number of calls for firework specific noise complaints, the number of calls for police to stop active deployments of fireworks, the number of citations issued, the number of fines issued, the number of arrests made, the number of prosecutions and convictions, the number of community meetings held on the topic, the number of educational talks given on the topic, the amount (in pounds) of illegal fireworks confiscated, the amount (in dollars) in fines collected, and the amount (in dollars) of property damage caused by illegal fireworks, and the amount (in dollars) of content loss caused by illegal	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	The Controller's Office City Performance team is available to provide support to DEM, Fire Department, and Police as requested based on existing datasets. The City shall work to incorporate information about 911 and 311 calls, as well as personal injuries or property damage resulting from illegal fireworks. Some of the proposed metrics may impose an undue logistical burden on the departments.
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R5.2 [for F5]	The Performance Program Team shall collaborate with the relevant departments to identify and collect those metrics which matter most to the public and which can reasonably be collected.	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	The Controller's Office City Performance team is available to provide support to DEM, FIR & POL as requested based on existing datasets. Additional data will be considered through this analysis.

2023-24 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Title [Publication Date]	R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ [Response Due Date]	Recommendation Response (Implementation)	Recommendation Response Text
Uncontrolled Burn: Dimming the Spark of Illegal Fireworks in San Francisco [May 28, 2024]	R5.3 [for F5]	The Performance Program team shall include those metrics which provide citizens and policymakers with information relevant to illegal fireworks in their Annual Performance Report.	Office of the Controller [July 27, 2024]	Requires further analysis	The Controller's Office City Performance team is available to provide support to DEM, FIR & POL as requested based on existing datasets. CON will include any relevant and helpful information in their Annual Performance Report, to the extent that the Departments do not find the data to be misleading or incomplete.