



San Carlos News Release

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San Carlos to Partner With Cities and County in Gun Buyback Program

San Carlos, CA – In an effort to enhance public safety and partner with San Carlos residents, the Sheriff’s Office and neighboring communities, the San Carlos City Council approved a contribution of \$50,000 to help fund a San Mateo County Gun Buyback program. The Sheriff’s Office manages the program, which will be funded by contributions from private donations, cities, and the county. The fundraising effort is being spearheaded by the Citizens for a San Mateo County Gun Buyback. Those wishing to donate to the event should contact Danielle Lacampagne with Citizens for a San Mateo County Gun Buyback at dlacampagne@yahoo.com.

In his letter introducing the program, Sheriff Carlos Bolanos expressed his excitement to participate in the program to ensure the successful removal of many guns from circulation and to make the communities of San Mateo County safer for those who live and work here. The Sheriff’s Office last hosted a gun buyback event in 2013, which resulted in the destruction of more than 600 firearms from throughout San Mateo County. The program will provide a safe, no-questions-asked opportunity for any individual to surrender firearms in exchange for a cash payment of \$100 for each handgun or long gun and \$200 for each assault-type weapon. The Sheriff’s Office will destroy all surrendered firearms.

Following the City Council meeting, representatives from the Citizens for a San Mateo County Gun Buyback stated that they are “thrilled by San Carlos’ generous decision to allocate

\$50,000 in matching funds for this important event. We plan on continuing our work to raise funds to provide an avenue for safe and responsible disposal of unwanted firearms in our community. We believe that gun buybacks make our county a safer place to work and live, and we hope that other cities will join San Carlos' call to action."

Council member Ron Collins stated, "My hope is that our commitment will encourage other cities to contribute more to this worthwhile program. Since our ultimate goal is to have fewer guns in circulation, this is the right thing to do." Council member Mark Olbert commented, "Reducing the number of guns makes it harder for criminals to arm themselves, and makes it harder for those suffering from depression or other illness to harm themselves. I'm very pleased San Carlos is playing such a significant role in Sheriff Bolanos' county-wide gun buyback program."

The event is expected to take place sometime in early May at a local, public venue. Specific event information will be forthcoming as details become available.

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