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For Immediate Release

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**Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network Offers 4th of July Reminder
Save 9-1-1 for Life or Property Emergencies**

Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network (GHC 9-1-1) reminds the public to save 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies. Contact non-emergency phone numbers in your area to report party complaints, excessive noise, fireworks and other nuisances on the July 4th holiday. These types of calls to 9-1-1 can tie up the phone lines and delay emergency response for residents with life-threatening emergencies.

Traditionally the 4th of July is one of the busiest nights of the year for 9-1-1 call centers and emergency first responders. They are often overwhelmed by non-emergency calls for fireworks, loud noise and other complaint calls, which affect response times on calls that are more serious—like house fires caused by fireworks, car accidents, heart attacks or other medical calls.

If you DO have an emergency and need police, fire or medical assistance:

- Call or text 9-1-1. Voice calls are the best and fastest method.
- Be patient, STAY on the line till 9-1-1 answers and DON'T hang up—there may be a possibility of heavy call volume.
- Answer all questions and follow instructions

GHC 9-1-1 joins with local area public officials to stress the importance of celebrating safely and responsibly. Fireworks are illegal inside many cities. Check with your local jurisdiction to see if there are restrictions. To report illegal use of fireworks or other non-emergencies contact the non-emergency phone number in your local area:

- Houston: 713-884-3131
- Harris County: 713-221-6000
- Fort Bend: 281-341-4665

For local jurisdiction non-emergency phone numbers or to submit a nonemergency service report check:

the GHC 9-1-1 Responder Map: <https://tinyurl.com/yd5upf9c> .

GHC 9-1-1 is responsible for providing the 9-1-1 telecommunications services for 49 cities and the unincorporated areas of two counties: Harris and Fort Bend: www.911.org,

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