



SEASIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Honor, Pride, and Commitment

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MEDIA RELEASE

Toy/Replica Firearms

Seaside, CA
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The Seaside Police Department responded to a report of four juveniles on school grounds carrying what appeared to be handguns and assault type rifles. Officers responded to the scene and found the juveniles were in possession of a toy assault rifle and a toy handgun, both of which had the orange tip removed from the barrels. These toy replicas could have easily been mistaken for real weapons.

The risks and dangers of possessing toy/replica firearms:

- When the orange tip on the toy/replica firearm is removed or defaced in any way, it places the juvenile / adult in its possession, and officers arriving on scene in danger.
- In low light conditions, and in high stress situations, the orange tip on a toy/replica firearm may be difficult for the officer to see, therefore making it hard to differentiate between a real gun and a toy gun.
- If you are handling a toy/replica firearm and encounter a police officer, **DO NOT** point the gun at the officer or at anyone around you. Drop the gun immediately and follow the officer's commands.

How Parents can help?

- If you decide to purchase a toy/replica firearm for your child, have your child play with it in a controlled setting under your direct supervision at all times.
- Educate your children about the dangers of having a realistic looking toy gun outside the home, inside a vehicle, concealed on their person or inside their backpacks etc.
- Make sure your child understands that if they encounter a police officer while playing with a toy/replica firearm, **DO NOT** point the gun at the officer or at anyone around them. Drop the gun immediately and follow the officer's commands.

The mission of the Seaside Police Department is to provide quality police services, in partnership with our community, to enhance and maintain a safe environment.

- Please remember, toy/replica firearms in public places may cause others to become fearful and can lead to dangerous situations.

Together, we can keep our neighborhoods safe! Following are the various contact numbers to notify or request assistance from the Seaside Police Department:

Anonymous Tip-Line - (831) 899-6282
Seaside Police Department – (831) 899-6748
Non-Emergency Dispatch – (831) 394-6811
Emergency - 911

CONTACT: CLO Perez
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For Immediate Release
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