



**DEXTER L. McCOY**  
COMMISSIONER

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Fort Bend County Commissioners Court Authorizes Fireworks Sales for Diwali Festival for the next Five Years**

**FORT BEND COUNTY, TX** – Today, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approved an order permitting the sale of consumer fireworks to celebrate Diwali, the “Festival of Lights.” Under the approved order, retail fireworks permit holders may legally sell fireworks beginning **October 12, 2025**, through **midnight on October 22, 2025**, unless an earlier expiration is prompted by drought conditions as determined by the Texas A&M Forest Service.

**Following an amendment proposed by Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy**, the authorization permits the County to annually authorize Diwali fireworks sales **through December of 2030**. This will allow both residents and the county to be better prepared for Diwali celebrations and remove the need for families to store fireworks in their homes following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.

“Fort Bend County is proud to support our diverse communities by allowing families to celebrate Diwali with this cherished cultural tradition,” said Commissioner McCoy. “This order reinforces our commitment to inclusion and cultural recognition.”

The action stems from House Bill 608, passed by the Texas Legislature in 2023, which empowers counties to extend fireworks sales for Diwali. Fort Bend County’s decision aligns with a growing acknowledgment across the Greater Houston region—including Harris and Waller counties—of Diwali’s importance to local Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist communities.

### **Key details of the Diwali fireworks order:**

- **Sale Period for 2025:** October 12–22, 2025 (or until the Texas A&M Forest Service declares drought conditions).
- **Location:** Authorized only in *unincorporated areas* of Fort Bend County by permit-holding sellers.
- **Safety Restrictions:** Limitations on specific fireworks classes may apply if a countywide burn ban is in effect; all sales and use must comply with Fort Bend County Fire Marshal guidance on safe handling and discharge.

The County’s Fire Marshal will collaborate with retailers to ensure public safety through educational outreach and compliance checks. Residents are advised to follow guidelines on safe transportation, discharge, and disposal of fireworks, and to stay informed about any burn ban declarations during the sale period.