Dear Riverside County Residents,

I wanted to acknowledge the significance as we celebrate the Fourth of July, our Independence Day.

The Fourth of July is more than just a holiday; it is a day steeped in our nation's rich history, commemorating the extraordinary journey we embarked on as a country over two centuries ago. It's a day when we pay tribute to the ideals of freedom, liberty, and democracy that shape our collective identity.

As we gather with friends and family, look up at the spectacle of fireworks brightening the night sky, and relish the taste of barbecues, let us also remember the courageous individuals who pledged their "lives, fortunes, and sacred honor" to the pursuit of a dream. A dream of a nation where everyone could enjoy the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Let's celebrate responsibly, caring for one another, and keeping safety at the forefront. Remember, fireworks are illegal in District 5 and can be punishable by fines of up to \$5,000. Our cities spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to put on a great show, so let's enjoy them together.

As your County Supervisor, it is an honor to serve this community every day. Still, it's particularly humbling on days like the Fourth of July when we come together to celebrate our shared values and history.

Happy Independence Day!

Yxstian Gutierrez County Supervisor