



# News Release

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**For Immediate Release:**  
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## Naval Support Activity Panama City cancels annual fireworks

**Panama City, Fla.** – Naval Support Activity Panama City is cancelling its annual Independence Day Bash and Fireworks display. Health protection measures in place at the base prohibit large social gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Our top priority is the safety and security of all base personnel,” NSA Panama City Commanding Officer Cmdr. Keith Foster said. “Although the installation has transitioned into HPCON Bravo, COVID-19 transmission numbers haven’t reached the threshold that would allow us to host a large-scale event.”

The annual event usually attracts more than 3,000 military, civilian employees, retirees, and their family members for an evening of live entertainment, food, games and fireworks.

"Although we're disappointed in cancelling the event," NSA Panama City Morale, Welfare & Recreation Director Brian Connors added. "We had to consider the potential health risk involved with hosting an event that attracts thousands of visitors."

Over the years, residents from all over Bay County gather on either side of the Hathaway Bridge and other areas along St. Andrew Bay to watch the fireworks in what has become a more than two-decade tradition.

Base officials would like to host the annual event next summer, if the conditions allow it.

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**Naval Support Activity Panama City**

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