

Summary of Firefighter SPECT Brain Scan Study (CA; 2004)  
& Fire Safety Amendment for Local Zoning Ordinances

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24 hours before I was supposed to speak on September 17 and share the draft of the fire safety amendment that I will be giving to you all within the next several weeks at the latest, I spoke with Ariel Strauss, the attorney who helped Encinitas residents create a protective ordinance. Ariel cautioned me to strengthen what I had because he knew it was going to be criticized, and so I double/triple-checked everything. I decided to get another opinion from a Canadian expert and am very grateful I did. I switched electrical engineers and started working with a gentleman in Las Vegas who is retired from electrical engineering and consults on product safety issues. We have together created a new fire safety ordinance with one outstanding issue remaining. I will discuss that as I conclude this summary. It may be a bit longer than most because I realize not everyone could get on Zoom. I'm sorry about that.

So at the last minute my talk changed from a focus on the Fire Safety Amendment that I think could reasonably be passed in most Colorado cities. Fire is indeed an ongoing risk here in the summer and fall, and that risk is only going to increase.

I still have to research specific Colorado fires, but to give you two examples of California fires where telecom and/or utility equipment was involved, I know you all know about the Paradise, California fire where the entire town burned down. PG&E pled guilty to 84 counts of manslaughter in June of this year. They declared bankruptcy and have reformulated and are continuing as the largest utility in Northern California. Faulty equipment is to blame for that fire, and it does appear there may have been a surge through town that ignited nearly all the smart meters on the sides of homes.

Another example is the 2007 Malibu. Three telecom carriers had rented out space on a Southern California Edison (SCE) utility pole. That pole was made of wood, it degraded over time, and strong Santa Ana winds caused that pole to bend and then snap in the wind. The telecom equipment/& or wires ignited the fire below and it burned 4000 acres of prime Malibu property.

**SPECT BRAIN SCAN FIREFIGHTER STUDY:** During my talk on September 17 I focused how I got into fighting cell towers 20 years ago, how I've come to help firefighters, how the SPECT Brain Scan Study came to be & what we used it for in California, and what we've learned from the firefighters.

To summarize, in 1999 a 104-foot cell tower was permitted for the golf course around my neighborhood in Rancho Santa Fe, California. A telecom industry executive was a neighbor, and he asked me through an intermediary if I would lead the fight. He told me these cell towers

caused cancer, and in answer to my question, he told me that RF radiation could penetrate a child's skull and thus affect brain development. I did not have access to the science I needed and so for the next several weeks, probably 2 – 3 mornings a week, I would open my door around 6 AM to let the dog out. There would be an unmarked manila envelope. Inside would be another three or four studies. Soon the stack of studies on the desk grew so that the truth was undeniable to me. I agreed to lead the fight and we did defeat cell tower.

A local news station wanted to interview me as the leader of our neighborhood effort because we had done something novel in my neighborhood. Instead of leading a NIMBY fight, we raised money and hired Cindy Sage to come down from Montecito, California and speak to the entire San Diego County Board of Supervisors. Rather than fight for us before the local planning board, we wanted to take Cindy Sage's expertise and share it with the decision-makers because we were learning that they were going to be inundated with permit requests over the coming decades. The network that wanted to do the interview was impressed that we had a more altruistic approach, yet we were still successful in defeating the tower. I was interviewed and one of the people watching that televised interview was a firefighter in San Diego.

This firefighter called me and said that his station was about to get hit with 24 antenna and they only have 48 hours left to appeal. They were out of money from their union dues and very importantly, I couldn't tell anybody that this particular firefighter had called me or his job was at risk. I learned firefighters cannot advocate for themselves because they are employees of the city and the revenue from cell tower leases on their stations goes back to the city.

I wrote an appeal on safety and that led me to firefighters in central California who were suffering from severe neurological symptoms as a result at the Nextel tower in front of their station. It had been there for 5 years when I met these men.

In 2004 I organized a study that was conducted by Gunnar Heuser, MD, PhD of six firefighters at this Calif station who had been exposed to a 2G cell tower in front of their station for 5 years. All six men were found to have brain abnormalities on SPECT brain scans. Beginning the day the tower was activated, firefighters began experiencing the following symptoms:

- Headache, including migraine
- Tinnitus
- Lethargy
- Cognitive impairment
- Sleep disturbances
- Inability to go to sleep
- Waking up as if they had been anesthetized
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Infertility (that realization came over time with multiple miscarriages for their wives)
- Immunosuppression

All of these men were healthy prior to activation of the tower. They had all been told by the wireless carrier that there were no ill effects from the technology. When the firefighters

complained to the carrier that they were ill and unable to function in their jobs at maximum capacity, they were told the tower was well within the FCC guidelines. **The tower was measured at 1/1000th of what the FCC allows. When the strongest of the strong among us sustains brain damage from a five-year exposure to a tower in front of their station at 1/1000<sup>th</sup> of the FCC allowable radiation limit, what does that suggest for the rest of the population.**

Various **exemptions** have been achieved over the last five years on behalf of the firefighters in California. In conjunction with Cindy Sage I helped the Los Angeles firefighters when they fought FirstNET on their stations, then the LA and San Francisco firefighter unions joined to get exemptions in AB 57 (a 5G bill) and SB 649 (the statewide 5G bill that was vetoed by Gov. Brown in Oct 2017). SB 649 would have given the firefighters a flat-out exemption on their stations from 5G. AB 57 just allows them to fight the 5G towers the same way they can fight the macro towers now. It's not very effective but it is something. They also achieved a 300-foot setback in San Diego County from all 5G towers & a 50-foot setback from the driveway from all 5G towers in the city of Encinitas.

**FIRE SAFETY AMENDMENT:** I know this is the part you've all been waiting for. As I was working on the fire safety amendment for Colorado, I received a call from attorney Scott McCollough [the Irregularators case] asking if I would write the fire safety amendment for the Malibu ordinance. That is what I'm currently working on with the Nevada engineer and I will be sending my completed draft to Scott shortly. We have a major decision to make about the smart meters inside cell towers. Having Scott McCollough's input on this amendment means we will have the approval of one of the best telecom attorneys in the country.

Today I talked with an RF engineer in Arizona who told me he is starting RF safety courses because the FCC has a little-known and very new regulation in which they mandate safety labeling for cell towers including 4G/5G small cells. Their different color codes for different levels of danger related to the towers is absolutely relevant. This engineer suggested that we utilize this in Malibu because it will require more rigor for every installer to go through and it is mandated (albeit quietly) by new FCC regulations! We can easily use this in Colorado. AT&T wants to fight this but they can't because this is an FCC regulation. I have just sent this to Scott McCollough. If he thinks it's a good idea to include in Malibu's ordinance, then I will give it to all of you to encourage your local governments to include in their ordinances. It's hard to argue with safety requirement promulgated by the FCC. It will improve safety, create awareness of the dangers when you see a red caution sign, and it will slow things down.

**I'M KEEPINMG AN EMAIL LIST IF YOU WANT MY COMPLETED FIRE SAFETY AMENDMENT FOR LOCAL ZONING ORDINANCES:** I'm working on this daily until I get it done. What would be great is if I could get a list of people who are interested in receiving the Fire Safety Amendment and the new safety requirements handed down by the FCC. Please send me your email if you would like these two attachments. I will be sending the portions that I feel should be written into your existing ordinances as soon as they are finalized by Scott McCollough.

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