



DISCLOSURE AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Donation of Infrared Sauna Units

Department: Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Requested Action: Approve acceptance of donated equipment
Proposed Donor: Colonial Greene Trust

ITEM DESCRIPTION

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department has been offered a donation of infrared sauna units by the Colonial Greene Trust, an entity represented in the Santa Ynez Valley. The donor has expressed an interest in supporting the health, safety, and long-term wellness of Santa Barbara County firefighters and has requested that the County consider acceptance of this donation for departmental use.

COST AND SOURCE

The Colonial Greene Trust has procured sixteen (16) infrared sauna units from Clearlight Infrared, with one unit intended for installation at each County fire station. The individual unit cost ranges from **\$5,309.10 to \$6,479.10**, depending on model and electrical configuration. The total estimated value of the donated equipment is **\$89,625.60**.

No County funds are requested or required for the purchase of the equipment. Delivery and shipment are included as part of the donation and are contingent upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

NEED AND IMPACT

Cancer remains a leading cause of death among firefighters, as documented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Santa Barbara County Fire Department has taken a

proactive and progressive approach to firefighter health and safety, particularly in the area of cancer prevention. Current initiatives include enhanced decontamination procedures, updated policies and training, and efforts to reduce occupational exposure to carcinogenic substances encountered during fire suppression activities.

Infrared sauna use has been identified as a supplemental post-incident recovery and wellness tool that may assist in reducing residual contamination following fire exposure, including substances such as heavy metals and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Additionally, post-fire off-gassing of contaminants can contribute to secondary exposure risks within shared living and working environments. The proposed equipment would support existing departmental health and safety practices and aligns with the Department's ongoing efforts to reduce long-term occupational health risks.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The donated equipment consists of the following Clearlight Infrared models:

Premier IS-2

120V / 15-amp plug-in

Unit value: \$5,309.10

True Wave™ Infrared Heaters

Dimensions:

Width: 45"

Depth: 40"

Height: 71"

Premier IS-3

120V / 20-amp plug-in

Unit value: \$6,479.10

True Wave™ Infrared Heaters

Dimensions

Width: 56"

Depth: 40"

Height: 71"

TIMELINE

The sauna units are currently in stock and available for shipment. Delivery could occur as early as **March 2026**, pending approval by the Board of Supervisors and completion of acceptance procedures.

IMPLEMENTATION, OVERSIGHT, AND COMPLIANCE

A draft departmental policy has been developed to guide the safe, appropriate, and voluntary use of the sauna units. Training will be provided to personnel regarding proper use, safety considerations, limitations, and routine maintenance. Installation and use will comply with applicable safety, electrical, and risk-management standards.

The donation is being offered voluntarily and without conditions. Acceptance of the equipment will not provide the donor with any special status, preferential treatment, or influence, and no County officer or employee will receive any personal benefit as a result of the donation. The equipment will be used solely to support the health and safety of County employees and in accordance with applicable County policies and ethics requirements.

CONCLUSION

Acceptance of this donation would allow the Santa Barbara County Fire Department to further its ongoing efforts to protect the health and safety of its personnel, who are routinely exposed to hazardous vapors, gases, and particulates associated with fire suppression activities. The proposed donation presents an opportunity to enhance firefighter wellness without the expenditure of County funds, while maintaining transparency, accountability, and adherence to ethical standards.

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department respectfully requests approval from the Board of Supervisors to accept this donation.

Garrett Huff, Fire Chief
Santa Barbara County Fire Department

Date: _____