



# **HINGHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION**

**339 Main Street  
Hingham, MA 02043**

Lieutenant Christopher DiNapoli  
Jeffrey S. Saunders  
Fire Marshal

September 7, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be advised I understand there have been questions in regards to a proposed development on Bishops Lane and the need to possibly blast for said project. This is a general overview of blasting regulations in the Commonwealth.

In order to blast a company must be licensed by the State Fire Marshal and all their associates' technicians must also be certified. They must be fully insured and bonded with the state treasurer as well. They must then apply for and be approved by the local fire dept. in order to blast.

When blasting is to be conducted the blasters perform a pre blast survey of the area. Any structures that will be located within a 250 foot range of the blast must be offered a pre blast survey by the blasting company. This service is performed by an independent third party hired by the blasters. There is zero expense to the homeowner. If there is any damage caused by the blasting so long as that pre blast survey was conducted then the blasters hold liability. However if a homeowner refuses the pre blast survey their claim of damages post blasting will result in the blasters having zero liability in the claim.

The Hingham Fire Dept. always recommends accepting a pre blast survey if offered but again it is voluntary. If you feel you have damage you may submit a blasting complaint to the fire dept. for review. There is a standardized complaint form available from the fire dept. or online from the Dept. of Fire Services.

Blasting is not an exact science but is for the most part very safe and effective. We as the AHJ have the ability to stop blasting at any point should we feel there is an issue or safety concern. Blasting is done on a fairly regular basis all over town with almost no incidents.

Should you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to this office.

Respectfully,

FF Jeff Saunders, Fire Prevention Officer