

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

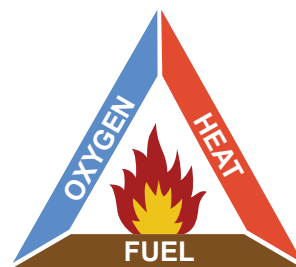
2009 Annual Report



PAT A. DENNEN
Fire Chief / Fire Warden



The Fire Triangle is a simple model for understanding the ingredients necessary for most fires. A fire requires three elements: heat, fuel and an oxidizing agent (usually oxygen). The fire is prevented or extinguished by removing one of the elements. A fire naturally occurs when the elements are combined in the right mixture. Without sufficient *heat*, a fire cannot begin, and it can not continue. Without *fuel*, a fire will stop. Without sufficient *oxygen*, a fire cannot begin, and it can not continue.



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

DEPARTMENT

2009 Annual Report



PAT A. DENNEN
Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DEPARTMENT STATEMENTS

MISSION

Community-Based All-Risk Emergency Services Organization, dedicated to the Health and Well-Being of the Citizens of San Bernardino County through a balance of Regionalized Services Delivery and Accountability to the Local Community, supported by Centralized Management and Services

VISION

Committed to providing Premier Fire Services in Southern California

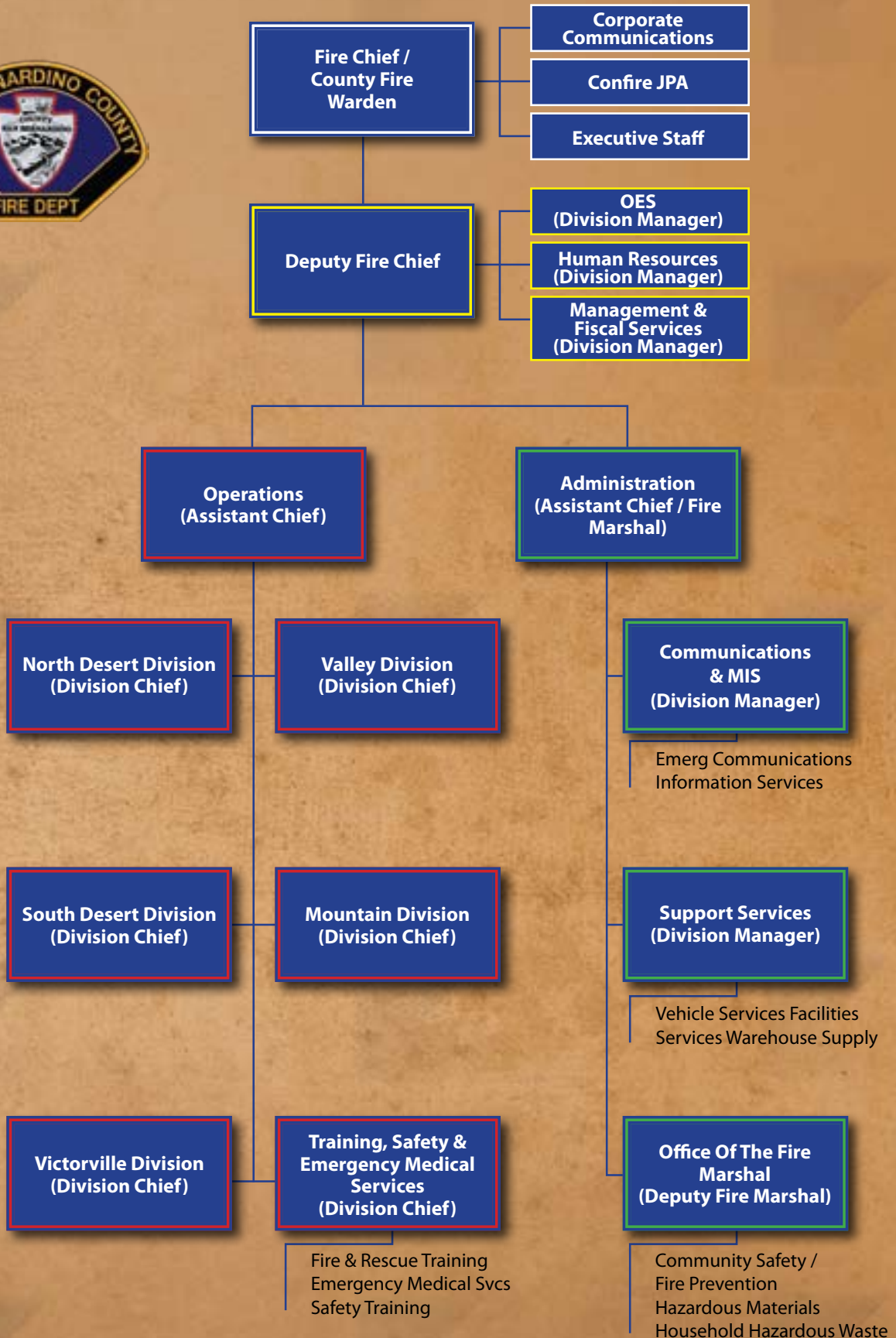
STANDARD OF COMMITMENT

Where Courage, Integrity and Service Meet

SERVICE MOTTO

Duty, Honor, Community...

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Greetings once again,

Contained within our 2009 annual report is some very exciting information about one of the most intriguing fire departments in California. We are unique in the sense that we protect an area larger than at least six states, encompassing over 17,000 square miles. We are the largest fire protection district in the State of California as well. Our fire protection areas include mountain communities with high elevations, low deserts, high deserts, and urban settings in our Valley Division. We operate everything from ambulance-transport boats, to bull dozers, and from snow cats to fire trucks. County Fire is the second largest ambulance transport provider in the county with approximately 31 ambulances in our inventory.

Our department also boasts one of the best labor and management relationships around. Our managers are eager to meet the needs of our employees, and our employees are second to none. We have a very talented group of experts, dedicated to each of their fields.

The year 2009 was an exciting yet challenging year. Our employees participated in the filming of an episode of Extreme Home Makeover in the North Desert and Victorville Division, which proved to be a very moving experience, exemplifying the commitment and dedication of our caring employees. We battled wildland blazes in Oak Glen, Yucaipa, and Lytle Creek near Wrightwood, and supported Los Angeles County in their largest wildland fire on record, the Station Fire. County Fire also welcomed the newest addition of personnel from the City of Victorville when we contracted for their Fire Prevention and Hazardous Materials Division.

Even during these challenging economic times, County Fire opened two new fire stations with a third due to be completed in early 2010, as well as two more scheduled to begin in 2010. Station 315 in Victorville also houses an office for the Governors Office of Emergency Management (CalEMA). For more information on all of the projects and programs we are involved with, please view our Moving Forward section of this report.

In closing, we hope you find our annual report helpful and full of valuable information. As Fire Chief, I am very proud of our staff. We remain committed to being a “Premier Fire Service Provider” and stand strong in our commitment to serving the citizens of our county with top-notch service, by a highly trained workforce.

Pat A. Dennen
Fire Chief/County Fire Warden

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Brad Mitzelfelt

First District Supervisor

Paul Biane

Second District Supervisor

Neil Derry

Third District Supervisor

Gary C. Ovitt

*Fourth District Supervisor
Chairman*

Josie Gonzales

*Fifth District Supervisor
Vice-Chairman*

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Our County has been blessed by the men and women of the San Bernardino County Fire Department, who serve our communities with the best in fire protection, setting an example for all County departments in terms of responsiveness, readiness, and dedication. Everyone in the County should be proud of the work done by County Fire.

In 2009, the men and women of County Fire were instrumental in keeping three large wildland fires from becoming catastrophic fires. Very few dwellings were destroyed by the roaring fires that struck our County in the mountain community of Oak Glen and the City of Yucaipa, or the wind driven fire that started north of Lytle Creek and quickly spread towards Wrightwood; where numerous homes were saved by the quick action of County firefighters.

Through partnerships, the completion of three new fire stations brings enhanced services to our desert communities and those travelling the I-15 corridor.

County Fire employees continue striving to serve the citizens of our County with the utmost professionalism. Their reputation has engendered a reservoir of good will with the general public. Their track record speaks volumes about their exemplary reputation in San Bernardino County.

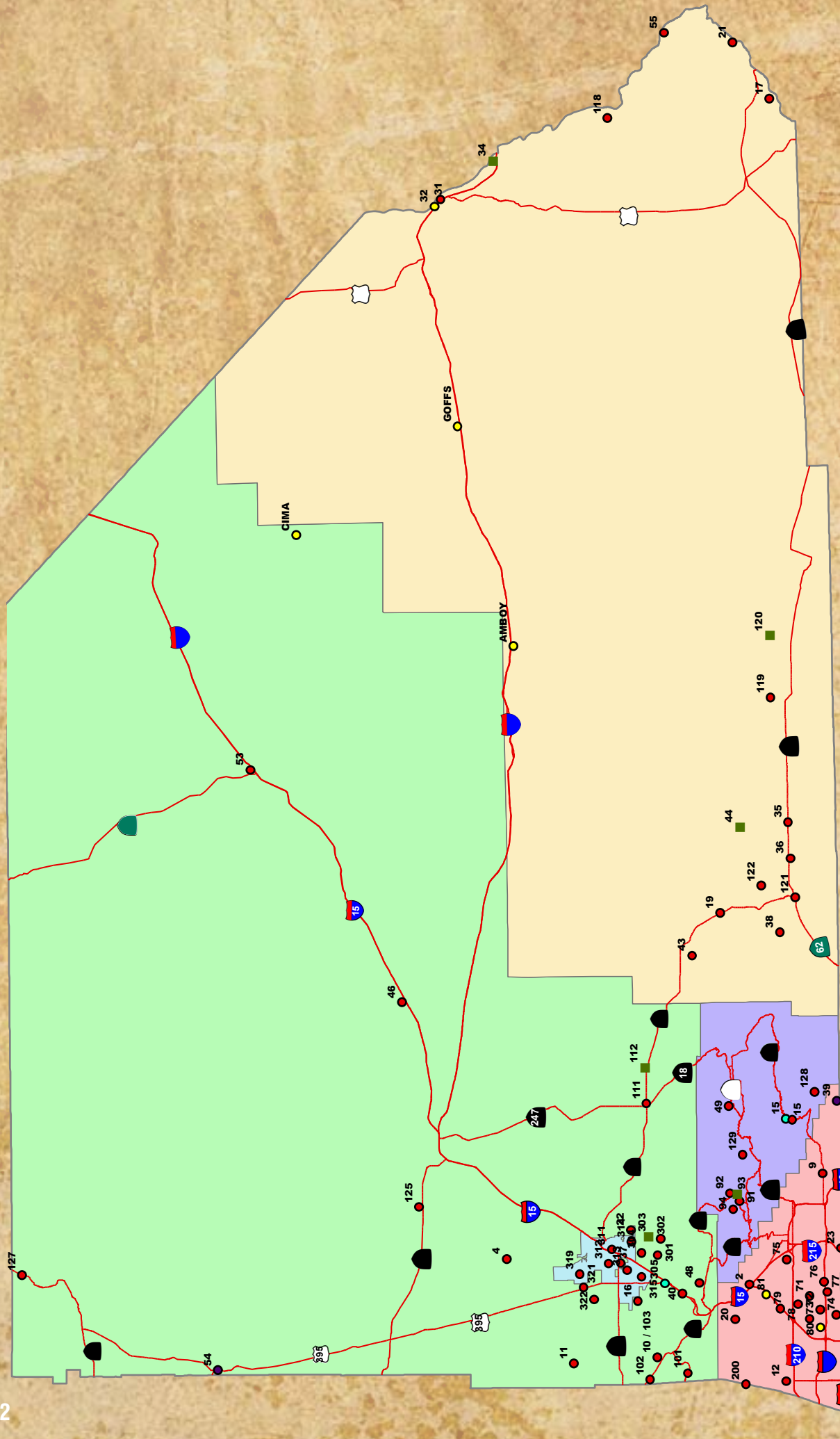
Public safety remains a high priority with myself and other board members. We must not forget the sacrifices made by our firefighters. The loss of two firefighters from our County in the Los Angeles County "Station Fire" is a vivid reminder of just how much a sacrifice it can be.

Thank you to every firefighter for having the passion and dedication to do what you do – serving the citizens of this County without hesitation.



Gary C. Ovitt

*Fourth District Supervisor
Chairman*



LEGEND

- County Fire Station
- Building In Progress
- Future Station
- Contract Station
- In-Active Station
- Victorville Division
- Mountain Division
- North Desert Division
- South Desert Division
- Valley Division

San Bernardino County

County Fire Stations

PROUDLY SERVING

the following cities, towns and communities:

City of Adelanto
Angelus Oaks
Baker
Baldy Mesa
Barton Flats
Big River
Bloomington
Cedar Glen
Crest Park
Deer Lodge Park
Devore
Earp
El Mirage
Fawnskin
Flamingo Heights
City of Fontana
Forest Falls
City of Grand Terrace
Green Valley Lake
Harvard
Havasu Landing
Helendale
City of Hesperia
Hinkley
Johnson Valley
Joshua Tree
Lake Arrowhead

Landers
Lucerne Valley
Lytle Creek
Mentone
Mountain Home Village
Mt. Baldy
Mt. View Acres
Muscoy
City of Needles
Oak Hills
Oro Grande
Phelan
Piñon Hills
Pioneer Town
Red Mountain
San Antonio Heights
Searles Valley
Silver Lakes
Sky Forest
Spring Valley Lake
Summit Valley
Trona
City of Victorville
Windy Acres
Wonder Valley
Wrightwood
Town of Yucca Valley





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Dräger

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Dräger

INTERESTING FACTS

Why is the *Dalmatian* the official firehouse dog?

How did the Dalmatian become the number one firefighting mascot in the United States and England? Well, the Dalmatian has a strong muscular body and is able to run great distances without tiring. During the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries most people traveled by horse or by carriage. The Dalmatians became a society dog, and trained to run alongside women's carriages. They became known as Coach dogs or Ladies dogs. Through the years, Dalmatians worked closely with horses and their owners, sometimes even sleeping with the horses at night to protect them against theft. It is during the era of horse drawn fire apparatus

that the Dalmatian became forever tied with the Fire Service. Firehouse horses were required to spend many hours at a time at a fire scene or inside the firehouse waiting for a call. The Dalmatians became the horses' pets, and helped to keep them calm. The Dalmatian also became a guard dog, insuring that nothing was stolen from the apparatus during fire calls. Today, in many large cities, the Dalmatian guards the fire truck while at the scene of fires and rescues, and has even been known to rescue trapped firefighters and victims. Overall, the Dalmatian is a brave and valiant dog. These traits make it an excellent mascot for the Fire Service.

Quick Facts

Square Miles in County	20,160
Square Miles Covered by County Fire.....	17,432
Population of San Bernardino County	Over 2 million
Number of Fire Stations.....	62
Number of Fire Stations Proposed or In-Progress	6
In-Active Stations	6
Administrative Facilities	10
Number of County Fire Personnel	1,127
Number of Fire Suppression Personnel	782
2009 Calls for Service.....	66,368
County Fire Budget.....	\$149,899,829

Who was the first *Volunteer Fire Chief* in America?

Along with founding a newspaper, signing the Declaration of Independence and flying famous kites, Benjamin Franklin is also known for forming the first volunteer fire company in America. That's right! In 1736, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Benjamin

Franklin formed the first volunteer fire company, called the Union Fire Company. Of course, it's only fitting that he be Fire Chief of the new fire company ... and so he was!

A Firehat's off to you, Mr. Franklin!



UNION MESSAGE



International Association of Firefighters Local 935



I often think of “how things will be in ten years.” Well, NOW is that point from when I thought about it... well, ten years ago. Today, the future became the present, and 2009 became the past, and ended the first decade of the century.

When we see our children daily, we don't always notice their growth until we see old pictures, then we realize just how fast time goes by and how much they have grown. I invite you to look at some pictures of us from ten years ago and notice the growth and changes.

Many words come to mind to describe 2009, some good and some not so good, such as the economic environment and one of the most challenging periods in our history. Hopefully 2009 was the beginning of the healing of our economy and it continues in 2010. There are many positive indicators that this is true. During

this trying time we have leaders that have publicly said, “Public safety is our number one priority”; and then backed it up with action.

I'm very proud to represent the men and women of San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters that brought us to where we are; through good times and bad; in every climate; from Nevada to Lake Arrowhead; and from Fontana to Arizona.

Please remember our military whom remain in harms way, fighting to protect our way of life and make this world a better place.

Sincerely,

Bret L. Henry

President

San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters

Local 935

International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO



Firefighters Association

2009 was again a busy year for the Firefighters Association, with Charities and needs of the membership always growing, as well as the need to assist with health and benevolent issues.

The San Bernardino County Firefighters Association assisted the various divisions in the county with health fairs, open houses, public education, and equipment. The Association continues its annual giving campaigns with our affiliation with the Spark of Love Toy Drive, American Cancer Society, Arrowhead Regional Burn Institute, and Firefighters Quest for Burn Survivors.

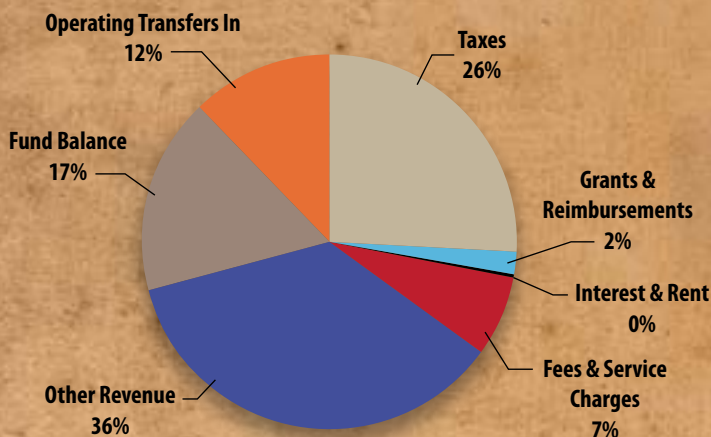
The Association was honored to assist those families who have lost loved ones in the line of duty attend the Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Sacramento. The Association continues to support the department Chaplin and peer support groups that are there for our membership and the department's well being. As these times are leaner, we strive to continue to support our charities and programs.

BUDGET BUDGET

San Bernardino County Fire Department Budget Revenue & Expenditures Fiscal Year 2009/2010

Revenue

Taxes	\$39,146,282
Interest & Rent	\$239,870
Grants & Reimbursements	\$3,747,164
Fees & Service Charges	\$10,677,721
*Other Revenue	\$51,769,611
Fund Balance	\$26,188,449
**Transfers In	\$18,130,732
TOTAL	\$149,899,829

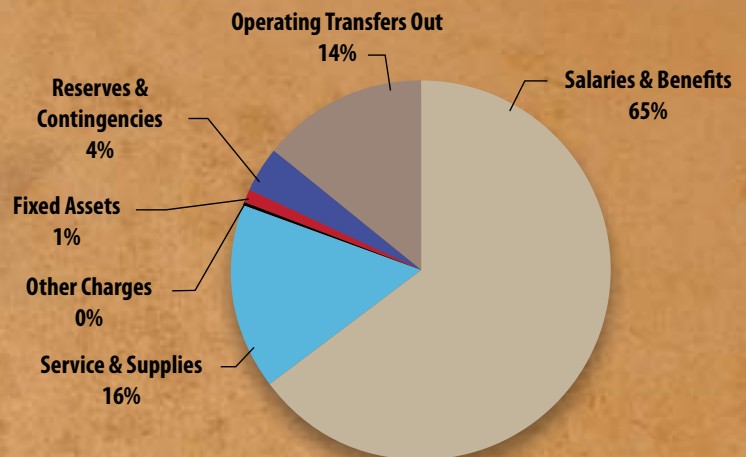


* **Other Revenue:** Reimbursements from Contract Cities, Los Angeles County FD, Chemehuevi Tribe, and Confire

** **Transfers In Include:** Support from County of San Bernardino General Fund, Support from District Attorney for Hazardous Materials Prosecution, and Ambulance Fees

Expenditures

Salaries & Benefits	\$96,684,239
Service & Supplies	\$24,691,760
*Other Charges	\$108,854
Fixed Assets	\$1,116,500
Reserves & Contingencies	\$6,541,176
**Transfers Out	\$20,757,300
TOTAL	\$149,899,829



* **Other Charges:** Interest on Leased Fire Engines

** **Transfers Out Include:** Transfers to General Reserves, Regional Service Zones, Enhanced Services (Administration Staff, Fire Prevention, Vehicle and Warehouse Services), and Construction Projects; Reimbursement for Shared Office Staff (Fontana & Special Districts), Purchasing Supplies and Software

PERSONNEL & EQUIPMENT

PERSONNEL							
Division	Mountain	North Desert	Victorville	South Desert	Valley	Training Division	Total
Fire Chief/Warden							1
Deputy Chief							1
Assistant Chief							2
Division Chief	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Battalion Chief	3	6	4	6	6	1	26
Captain	14	39	18	15	39	6	131
Engineer	9	24	18	9	33		93
Firefighter	21	48	18	12	57		156
Limited-Term Firefighter	9	30		12	9		60
Paid-Call Firefighter	61	123	14	53	55		306
Suppression Total	118	271	73	108	200	8	782
Non-Suppression Personnel (full-time, part-time, contract)							345
Total Personnel							1,127

*Funded positions FY 09/10

The Human Resources Division held two suppression recruitments and seven non-suppression recruitments in 2009, including new and replacement positions.

EQUIPMENT							
Division	Mountain	North Desert	Victorville	South Desert	Valley	Total	
*Airport Rescue Unit			5			5	
Ambulances	6	18		7		31	
Boats	3			2		5	
*Command Posts						3	
*Dozers						2	
Foam Unit			1			1	
*Loaders						7	
Fire Engines	11	23	10	13	21	78	
Ladder Trucks		1	2	1	3	7	
Brush Engines	3	9	4	4	7	27	
Brush Patrols	3	9	1	6	5	24	
Haz-Mat Rigs		1	1	1	1	4	
*Haz-Mat Squads						5	
*Communication Support Vehicles						2	
*Mechanic Trucks						13	
Rescues	3	3		2	2	10	
Snow Cats	6	1				7	
Squads	2	3		2	5	12	
Support Trailers	14	13	5	10	7	49	
Water Tenders	4	8	1	6	5	24	

*Department Wide

STATISTICS

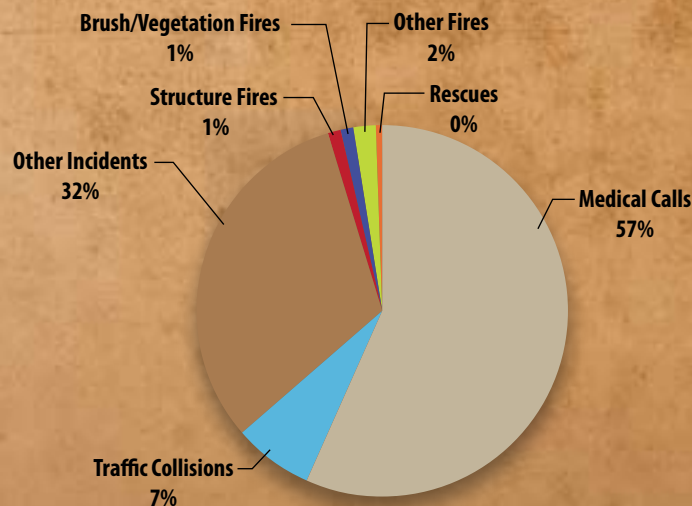
Calls for Service 2008 & 2009

Incident Type	Mountain Division		North Desert Division		South Desert Division		Valley Division		Victorville Division
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	* 2008
Structure Fires	45	50	137	123	44	59	127	169	66
Brush/Vegetation Fires	37	23	131	141	40	43	157	150	34
Other Fires	49	34	470	435	147	132	463	461	69
Rescues	20	22	49	42	12	17	75	85	4
Medical Calls	1,866	1,330	12,225	12,548	4,763	5,131	11,756	12,951	3,410
Traffic Collisions	266	180	1,752	1,523	444	454	1,386	1,333	350
Other Incidents	1,357	949	6,216	4,791	2,283	1,968	7,331	6,329	2,106
2008 Totals	3,640		20,980		7,733		21,295		* 6,039
2009 Totals		2,588		19,603		7,804		21,478	

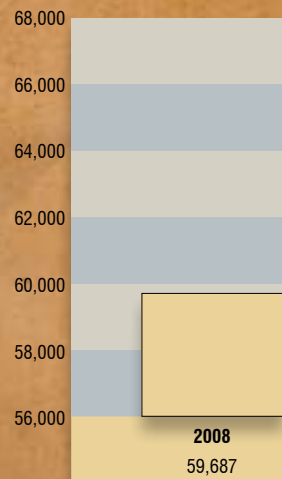
*Victorville Division 2008 statistics reflect start date of July 5, 2008 and count for five Victorville contract stations only.

Due to the completion of the fire reorganization, the following changes took place in 2009: Station 9 (Mentone) was moved from the Mountain Division to the Valley Division. Station 22 (Spring Valley Lake) & Station 37 (Victorville) were moved from the North Desert Division to the Victorville Division. The 2009 statistics reflect these changes.

Calls for Service 2008 & 2009

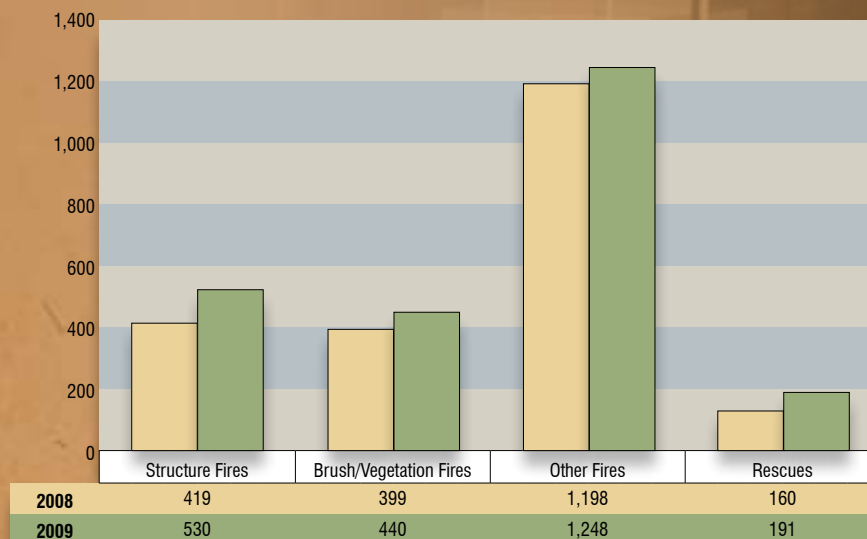


Calls for Service

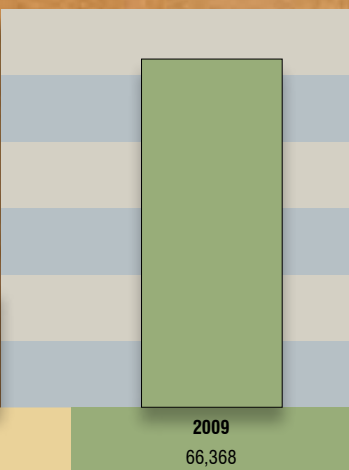
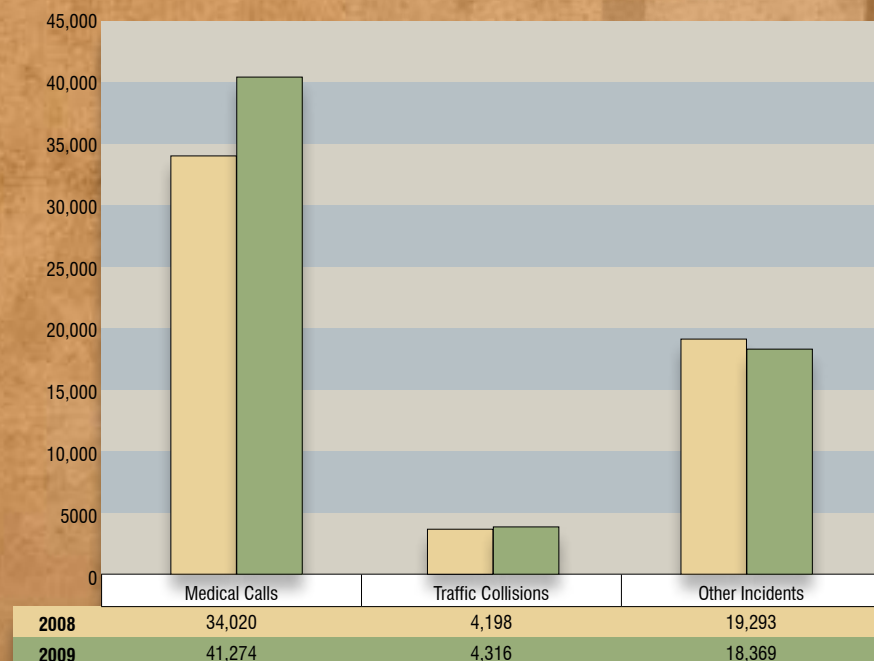


Division	Totals		
	2008	2009	2009
	129	419	530
	83	399	440
	186	1,198	1,248
	25	160	191
	9,314	34,020	41,274
	826	4,198	4,316
	4,332	19,293	18,369
	59,687		
	14,895		66,368

2008/2009 Comparisons



2008/2009 Comparisons



STATISTICS *cont'd.*

EMS, Training & Safety Division

The San Bernardino County Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Training and Safety Division provides full-service training, from orientation of new employees to the most advanced training available in fire departments today. In addition, the Division provides service in the following areas: Hazardous Materials, Counter-Terrorism, Urban Search and Rescue/Technical Rescue, Aircrash Rescue Fire Fighting, and Emergency Medical Services. The Division also deploys trained safety officers and technical experts to large-scale emergencies to provide expertise and leadership, and to ensure safety of public safety personnel.

This Division continued the work of standardization throughout the department with the distribution of its newly produced "Basic Firefighter Skills DVD" in early 2009. These new DVDs cover almost all the basic level skills that entry level employees will need to master in order to work cohesively with the Department on emergency operations.

The Division taught numerous classes aimed at continuing education, recurrence training and succession planning throughout all levels of the department. The Division executed many classes that would help place our employees in a position to successfully advance within our system.

Training exercises are always a priority for the Department. One of the largest held in 2009 was Operation Safe Water, the first exercise of its kind anywhere in the nation. Dive Teams and Arson/Bomb Squads from the County Sheriff's Department and the FBI worked with San Bernardino County Fire, Fish and Game, Park Services, State Water Resources Board and the Terrorism Early Warning Group to pull off a major undertaking. The scenario involved an attack on Lake Silverwood, where a suicide bomber drives a chemical and explosives-laden truck into the lake. There is only a partial detonation and chemicals are released into the air and water. There are casualties, explosive devices, a hazardous materials release, and contamination of a major

water supply. The scenario was intended to exercise the Unified Command concept, integrate multiple disciplines and agencies from all levels, and utilize the specialized equipment received by the Dive Team, Bomb/Arson and the Hazmat Team through Homeland Security Grants.

The EMS Section provides on-site education, on-line education and operational oversight to approximately 191 EMT-Paramedic's, 400 EMT-I and 75 first responders within the department. The San Bernardino County Fire Department is the largest provider of field Emergency Medical Services in the County with 7 exclusive operating areas and 48 Advanced Life Support field units on duty each day.

Richard Sewell Training Center	28,524
Emergency Medical Services Training	12,638
Joint Apprentice Commission Training	10,488
Fire Station Level Training	67,868
Online Training (includes some JAC & EMS)	12,618
Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Training	6,820
Total Training Hours	138,956



Office of Emergency Services

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) Division is responsible for countywide coordination of emergency management planning, response, recovery and mitigation. As such, OES serves as the Lead Agency for the San Bernardino County Operational Area (OA), which includes 24 Cities/Towns, over 40 County Departments, and a multitude of Special Districts, volunteer organizations and private entities, state and federal agencies and other key stakeholders.

In 2009, OES priorities included Department Emergency Operations Plans for each County Department, a countywide Mass Care & Shelter Plan, the procurement of Shelter Trailers and supplies for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program, and overall enhancement of both the CERT and Emergency Communication Services (ECS) volunteer programs. This past year, OES also played a key role in the Repatriation Planning Project led by California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) and also participated with CalEMA, FEMA and other Operational Areas in the development of a Regional Catastrophic Planning Project.

OES administers the Federal Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) and Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) for the Operational Area. OES also represents San Bernardino County in the Riverside Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant program. The active grants under these programs now total over \$14 million.

Though OES coordinated many dynamic and complex programs for the OA in 2009, the primary mission still remained the readiness of the County/Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for response during a major incident/disaster. The EOC activated four times in 2009, a significant decrease from prior years. However, OES was challenged with a new type of activation – a public health emergency. The H1N1 outbreak, which started in the spring of 2009, continues to deliver a new dimension in emergency management incidents. This event has demonstrated that emergency management is continually facing new challenges and forever evolving.



COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Dispatch Center Grows, Increasing Level of Service

The Consolidated Fire Agencies of the East Valley (CONFIRE, JPA) also known as CommCenter, is a multi-agency Fire Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Dispatch Center. CONFIRE's mission is to provide 24/7 direct Fire/EMS dispatch services. This includes full spectrum Management Information Systems (MIS) service and support as well as Geographical Information Systems (GIS) services. JPA members who make up CONFIRE include fire agencies from the cities of Rialto, Colton, Loma Linda, Redlands and the County of San Bernardino. Contractual agreements exist for emergency dispatch services with nine other agencies; Running Springs Fire Department, Twenty-Nine Palms Fire Department, Baker Ambulance, and the San Bernardino County Transportation/Flood Control Department. Contract agencies added in July 2009 include Apple Valley Fire Protection District, Big Bear Lake Fire Protection District, Big Bear City Fire Department, and Barstow Fire Protection District. The Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District joined in December. CONFIRE also began dispatching for Victorville Fire Department in June as a result of their contract agreement with County Fire. In all, more than 77 communities and cities are provided emergency response services within the San Bernardino County area.

The CommCenter uses the ProQA Emergency Medical Dispatch System, an internationally recognized triage system, which guides call takers through a scripted interview to reach a determinant code that is standardized world wide. Equipment and crews are dispatched to an emergency that precisely meet the victim's medical needs. CONFIRE's staff consists of 58 full-time and 10 part-time personnel. During 2009, 4 dispatcher positions and 8 call-taker positions were added to meet increased call volume. In 2009, CommCenter dispatched 107,648 calls for service, compared to the 89,062 incidents in 2008; a 21% increase. The additional contracts are expected to significantly increase call volume for the full year ahead, with estimates of 131,800 calls for service in 2010.

The CommCenter functions as the operational area dispatch center for the county of San Bernardino. Under this function, CommCenter is responsible for coordinating mutual aid needs within the county and for processing mutual aid requests to and from the Region VI OES (Office of Emergency Services) Operations Center. San Bernardino County participates with the California Department of Forestry (CalFire) for the protection of State Responsibility Land (SRA) as a participant in the national computerized mutual aid management system ROSS (Resource Ordering and Status System), a standardized method for the allocation and management of mutual aid resources.

An overview of the CommCenter dispatch services in 2009 include:

- Coordinating and "flight following" of EMS helicopters on emergency incidents within San Bernardino County,
- Receiving more than 200,000 calls in 2009, that resulted in 107,648 incident dispatches,
- Dispatching for 102 fire stations, administration, hazmat and local government,
- Coordinating 911 calls with wireless providers to correct public safety dispatch centers.

Geographic Information Systems

CONFIRE Geographic Information System (GIS) staff provides updates to the County Street Network, the CAD mapping system and the Mobile Data Computer (MDC) mapping program. The GIS section provides large incident mapping services and works with damage assessment teams. GIS staff members also provide map books, drive time studies and mapping services to its agencies. A CONFIRE GIS Mapping Analyst maintains the Reverse 911 System, also known as San Bernardino County Telephone Emergency Notification System (TENS).

Information Systems

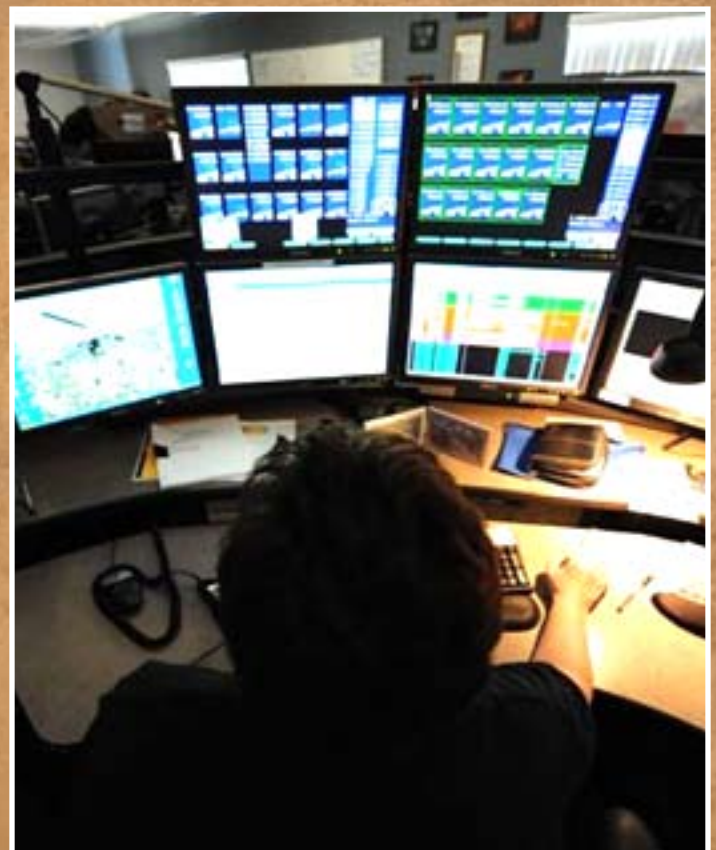
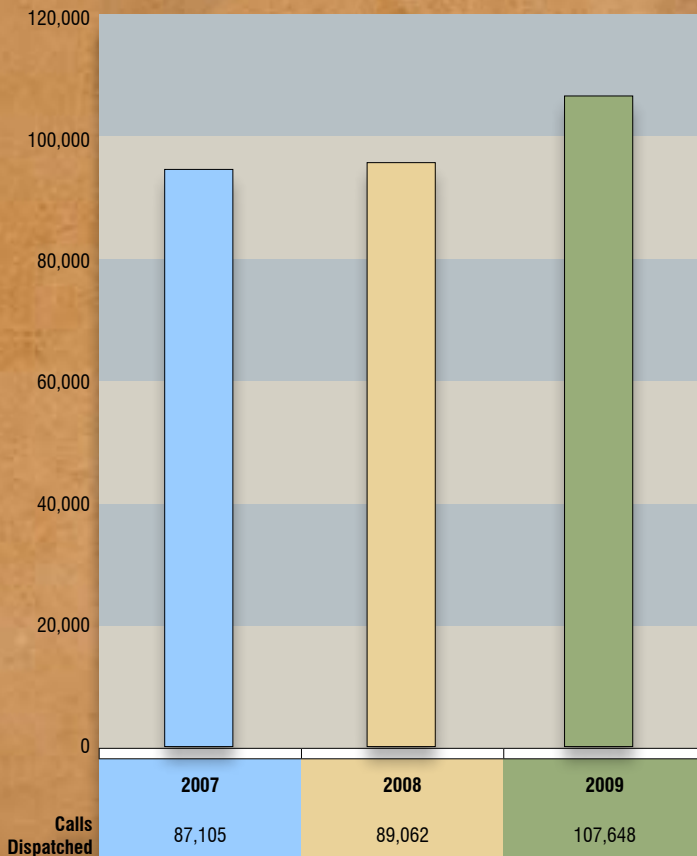
CONFIRE Management Information Systems (MIS) provides Informational Technology services and infrastructure support. CONFIRE provides support for network and agency infrastructure and the Wide Area Network, email and Internet services, supports the RMS-Records Management System (SunPro), the automated dispatch system (CAD) and all CAD interfaces. The infrastructure group also provides wiring for station alerting systems. MIS provides support for Mobile Data Computers (MDCs), Blackberry phones, desktop/laptop computers, printers and other peripheral devices. They also provide custom programming, administer Telestaff, Envisions, Permits Plus, payroll time-keeping system, and various other programs.

The CONFIRE Board of Directors approved spending \$1.3 million for a TriTech CAD system; also supporting implementation of MDCs in the field

for CONFIRE's dispatched agencies. A 2008 grant from Assistance to Firefighters provided funding to install MDCs in command vehicles of supported fire agencies.

Benefits from the MDC project include improved communication between agencies, better coordination and use of resources on a regional level, jurisdictional boundaries can be established earlier in the incident enabling a faster, more efficient allocation of resources. The MDC Toughbooks provide Incident Commanders the most current graphic presentation of CAD information and incident status, real-time detailed information and visual updates on fire progression, resource assignments, resource locations and detailed maps for safe entry and exit strategies for the public and fire personnel. It also allows access to updated reference material and information to enhance firefighter safety.

Calls Dispatched







MOVING FORWARD

Metropolitan Fire Chiefs

San Bernardino County Fire was accepted as a member of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association (Metro Chiefs). Metro Chiefs represents the largest and most complex fire departments in the world. This association is limited to fire chiefs having a minimum staffing strength of 400 fully paid, career firefighters. Metro Chiefs brings together fire chiefs from large metropolitan fire departments to share information and focus on major issues effecting policy changes in the U.S. and

abroad. Their mission is to ensure the highest level of quality fire protection, EMS, and specialized services in metropolitan communities through leadership, action, and partnerships with all levels of government. Members of Metro Chiefs bring together fire chiefs from across the globe who have expertise in fire service occupational safety, code enforcement, property inspection, and engineering, who solve problems, and gain insight into tomorrow's biggest challenges.

Chief Dennen Appointed Interim Region VI Coordinator

The State of California's Office of Emergency Services appointed Fire Chief Pat Dennen as the interim Region VI Mutual Aid Coordinator responsible for overseeing the mutual aid program with local government fire apparatus in six Southern California counties; Inyo, Mono, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial.

Region Coordinators have a multitude of duties, including the responsibility for coordination and

dispatch of regional mutual aid resources along with the approval of the development of uniform fire and rescue emergency plans within the region. When a disaster of any sort occurs and local fire resources have been exhausted, the Region Coordinator mobilizes mutual aid resources from within the six regional counties, then turns to State resources if needed. The Regional Coordinator also coordinates back-up coverage for an area when there is a shortage of resources.

Chief Dennen Serves on Blue Ribbon Task Force

In June, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed Chief Pat Dennen to serve on the Blue Ribbon Task Force. As part of his ongoing commitment to emergency preparedness, Governor Schwarzenegger issued Executive Order S-12-09 to reinforce California's vigilance in protecting lives and property from wildfire.

The EO directs the Blue Ribbon Task Force to ensure that recommendations made by the Governor's Blue Ribbon Fire Commission, established after California's catastrophic 2003 wildfire siege, continue to be implemented, thus ensuring California is prepared when a disaster strikes.



Victorville Fire Prevention Bureau Joins County Fire

On August 1, the Victorville Fire Prevention Bureau joined the San Bernardino County Fire Department. Fire Prevention, CUPA, and Emergency Services functions joined the suppression services which are contracted by the City of Victorville. This approach is consistent with all other contracts and allows for local autonomy while maintaining the high standards set by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

Fire Prevention staff conduct annual occupancy inspections, plan checks of new and existing projects, construction inspections and works closely with the suppression crews to provide public education programs throughout the City. Other programs provided include juvenile firesetter intervention, development project review and consultation, and special events.

Special Tax Measure for Havasu Lake Passes Resoundingly with 85% Approval

Havasu Lake is a small and very isolated resort community on the Colorado River situated halfway between Needles, Ca. and Parker, Az. Since 2004, fire protection and emergency services were funded in large measure by Indian Gaming monies received through the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund. When the Indian Gaming Compact with the State were renegotiated in October of 2007, Havasu Lake lost its eligibility for these revenues and was suddenly faced with the loss of their emergency services.

Following an emergency meeting by the Havasu Lake Municipal Advisory Committee, a Special Tax Committee was formed with community volunteers to pursue a special tax assessment that would ensure adequate funds to provide staffing for the station and to maintain their current levels of service. This year and a half long project was concluded in March of 2009 with a successful mail-in ballot process that was passed by more than 85% of the voters.

San Bernardino County Earns StormReady Status

In September, the NOAA's National Weather Service recognized San Bernardino County for earning its StormReady distinction. Southern California's San Bernardino County is the largest county by area in the continental United States and consequently the largest county to become StormReady.

To earn the StormReady designation, the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services in

conjunction with the Department of Public Works completed multiple steps to better prepare County residents for severe weather. StormReady requires implementation of a rigorous set of severe weather warning criteria and action plans to ensure public safety. To recognize this important designation, StormReady signs have been placed in communities around San Bernardino County.

MOVING FORWARD *cont'd.*

Fuels Management Program Efforts Continue

For several years, the Department has provided leadership in reducing fire threat by creating defensible space around homes and neighborhoods in our mountain communities. This year is no different. The Department obtained an additional \$10 million to continue fuel reduction and create defensible space around homes and businesses in the wildland urban interface in all of our mountain communities. In addition, another \$3.15 million was obtained through the USFS from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Funding goes to support our partners in the Department of Public Works who contract for the fuel reduction services from private contractors. The Fire/Operations Branch of the Mountain Area Safety Taskforce (MAST) sets the priorities for where the community based fire protection projects should be located. The Department of Public Works then designs

and bids out the projects. Ultimately this puts dozens of contractors and hundreds of employees to work reducing the potential for catastrophic wildland fires in our mountain communities.

Funding also supports our local County Fire Slash Crew that is dispatched at a moments notice to handle short term, quick response fuels reduction issues. The slash crew has helped communities across the mountain remove thousands of tons of fuel.

This year was the last year of a \$70 million six year grant from the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) that began the fuels reduction programs. The new USFS funding will continue these efforts for the next three years. Thousands of dead, dying and diseased bark beetle trees were removed and thousands of mountain lots were treated to remove flammable vegetation and create defensible space.

Assistance to Firefighter Regional Grant

On December 1, 2008 County Fire was awarded its first regional grant from the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program. The award of \$427,027 (\$341,622 Federal Funding; \$85,405 matching dollars) was applied for on behalf of CONFIRE Joint Powers Authority and its member agencies to equip member agencies' emergency vehicles with 44 Mobile Data Computers (MDCs). The purpose of the MDCs is to improve regional interoperability and increase the efficiency of fire responses and management from multiple fire agencies by providing direct access to the

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system located at CONFIRE. The information transmitted to emergency staff via MDCs will increase the ability to manage multiple resources, communicate best location for suppression personnel responding and maintain constant communication between all responding agencies to an incident. The CONFIRE agencies receiving the MDCs are San Bernardino County Fire, Colton Fire, Loma Linda Fire, Redlands Fire, and Rialto Fire Departments.



Mobile Driver Simulator

In July 2008, County Fire took receipt of three state-of-the-art driving simulators mounted in a mobile trailer which was funded from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The grant was in the amount of \$616,896 of the \$771,120 project. This will allow County Fire to train suppression staff in the safe and proper handling of fire

apparatus in all types of terrain, weather and highway traffic conditions and situations. This virtual training enhances decision making, potentially preventing future accidents in the real world. In 2009, well over 200 suppression personnel have rotated through the simulator training program.

SAFER Grant Provides for Enhancement of Fire Services

In May, County Fire was awarded funds to recruit, train and retain Paid-Call Firefighters (PCF) for the enhancement and continued service to the citizens in the remote areas of the county. Through the SAFER Grant (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) section of the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program, San Bernardino County Fire was awarded \$532,025. This two-year grant requires no matching funds from the County Fire. This money will enhance

public safety at no cost to San Bernardino County taxpayers. Additionally, rapid response is essential to public safety and this award will allow us to have adequate PCF's available to better serve the outlying communities. During the recruitment phase the funds were used to recruit candidates through County Fire's Explorer Program. There are currently 27 future Paid-Call Firefighters in the Apprentice Paid-Call Firefighters Academy.

Homeland Security Grants

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for the management of the Federal Homeland Security Grant Program which consists of sub-programs namely, the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP), the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), the Citizen Corps Program, and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). The UASI program started in February 2008 and encompasses the Cities of Riverside, San Bernardino, Ontario, and the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

The SHSP program builds capabilities at both the state and local levels and implements the goals and objectives of the State's homeland security strategies and initiatives. The MMRS program promotes regional coordination of emergency management, health, and medical systems to respond to mass casualty incidents caused by any hazard. The purpose of the Citizen Corps Program is to bring community and government leaders together to

coordinate the involvement of the community members and organizations in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery. And, the UASI program focuses on enhancing regional preparedness in major metropolitan areas.

Since 1999, OES has administered over \$35 million in federal homeland security funds which are distributed to local jurisdictions such as public health, law enforcement agencies, fire jurisdictions, emergency management and other local agencies. In 2009, the County received grant funding of \$4.1 million from the SHSP program and over \$321K from the MMRS program. Most of these grant funds were distributed to other County Departments and cities within the County which used the funding for first responder's equipment and supplies, planning, exercise, and training activities which would increase and improve the County's capabilities and disaster response readiness.

MOVING FORWARD *cont'd.*

Grant Provides for Much Needed Equipment

In July, County Fire was awarded \$20,000 through the Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant. The funds were used to purchase much needed personal protective equipment for 86 Paid-Call Firefighters. Equipment included wildland

helmets, shrouds, goggles, gloves and fire shelters. The grant helped off-set continual cost for equipment that is in need of replacement.

County Fire Receives Mercury Vapor Analyzer

In November, the County Fire Hazmat Division received a Mercury Vapor Analyzer, a Lumex RA-915 Light, through a Supplemental Environmental Project by the US Environmental Protection Agency. This much needed piece of equipment is valued at over \$20,000.

The Lumex RA-915 Light is one of the only real-time mercury detection instruments approved by the EPA Emergency Response Team and Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team for verifying that

mercury vapor levels are safe for re-occupancy after mercury spills have occurred. It uses a technology called Atomic Absorption Spectrometry to provide virtually instantaneous and accurate readings of mercury vapor concentrations in the air at extremely low levels.

Mercury spills in households and schools are a relatively common occurrence that our Hazmat Division Emergency Response personnel respond to throughout the County of San Bernardino.

Ready, Set, Go Program Implemented

In an effort to create safer communities, San Bernardino County Fire, in cooperation with Ventura County, Los Angeles County and Orange County Fire Departments, have initiated a new program called READY! SET! GO!; targeting communities in high risk wildfire prone areas. READY! SET! GO! is about helping residents understand how their home's location, surrounding vegetation, construction elements, and other factors place their property and them at risk during a wildfire. More importantly, it teaches them what they can do to reduce that risk – get

READY! It also instructs them on the importance of having an evacuation and survival plan – get SET! Finally, it emphasizes the need to GO! and go early, before the fire arrives to ensure the safety of themselves and their family. The goal of this program is to educate and engage residents in reducing the risk in their communities, which will help save lives and property. Visit our website at www.sbcfire.org to learn more and view video.



Southern California ShakeOut

Nearly 7 million participated in the 2009 Great California ShakeOut, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. On the morning of October 15, 2009, San Bernardino County Fire Department employees participated in the “Drop, Cover & Hold-On” drill. Fire Station crews prepared for ShakeOut by discussing individual, station and divisional readiness and capabilities. At OES, the facility was evacuated and employees reported to a

designated location in the parking lot. The facility was then inspected for damage and/or utility disruption. These same procedures occurred simultaneously countywide by thousands of County employees, including all five floors of the County Government Center in San Bernardino! Because of its success, the Great California ShakeOut will be held annually on the third Thursday of October.

Needles Station Celebrates 50 Years of Service

Over fifty years ago, the corner of an auto repair shop served as home to the Needles Volunteer Fire Department. To better meet the needs of the City and Fire Department, a fire station was budgeted and constructed. On October 31, 1959, the City dedicated the Needles Fire Station with a celebration. The Station was dedicated to the memory of Robert Lorimer, who was long known as the “One-Man City Fire Department”.

This past December 5th, the 50th Anniversary of the fire station was commemorated with a ceremony and

barbecue, acknowledging the dedication of the personnel who have worked out of the station over the past fifty years and the service provided by the facility to the City, the County, and surrounding communities. A special treat for those attending was the opportunity to see Needles Engine 5. The Seagraves Engine was the first Engine housed in the Fire Station. It was restored and is owned by the Mohave County CERT Team.



MOVING FORWARD *cont'd.*

Fire Stations to Serve High Desert

Fire Station 10 in Phelan was replaced with a new state-of-the-art, 7,000 square foot station; replacing the previous facilities, which consisted of two aging mobile homes and a metal shed. This \$2.8 million project was funded by the County of San Bernardino. The new facility became operational in June and can accommodate the fire engine, ambulance and seven personnel. Station 10 covers over 100 square miles and serves the citizens of Phelan and Pinon Hills, as well as assists with calls in Wrightwood, West Cajon Valley, Baldy Mesa, Oak Hills and El Mirage.

In August, the City of Victorville and County Fire celebrated the grand opening of Fire Station 315 in Victorville. The 4,600 square foot facility is located in the southwest portion of the city, in a residential area known as the Golden Triangle and is staffed 24-hours. This \$2 million project was solely funded by the City of Victorville.

New Fire Station in Angelus Oaks

Residents of Angelus Oaks will soon have a new, state-of-the-art fire station. In 2009, the Board of Supervisors approved \$3.5 million to purchase land adjacent to the current station and begin construction on a new facility. Construction on the two-story, four bay structure is expected to begin in July 2010. A community

A ribbon cutting ceremony took place in November to celebrate the completion of Station 305 in Hesperia, and will become fully operational in 2010. This \$6.7 million, 18,000 square foot station was funded through a partnership between the City of Hesperia, the County of San Bernardino and San Bernardino County Fire. This station was built with future growth in mind and can house 15 crew members on any given shift. At the onset, this station will staff a 24-hour full-time crew, as well as paid-call firefighters and a Battalion Chief and will offer paramedic services. This station will improve public safety by reducing response times to residents and will provide needed emergency services to homes, businesses and travelers along the I-15 corridor and surrounding areas.

room is being incorporated into the design to be used for community functions and as a training facility. Station 15 is located along Hwy. 30 between Redlands and Big Bear and serves the communities of Angelus Oaks, Seven Oaks and Barton Flats.

Remodel Projects Completed

2009 brought about the completion of major expansion and remodel projects to three fire stations in the County. Station 111 in Lucerne Valley expanded their apparatus bay by 1,400 square feet. The project included a 10 foot extension to the existing two bays, the addition of a new adjoining bay, and larger roll-up doors, allowing for easier and safer access in and out of the bays. This project allowed for the storage of a new fire engine and the existing fire equipment. The cost for the expansion and addition are \$184,250 and was funded by County Fire through their Capital Improvement Project budget. There was no impact to the County's general fund.

To meet the station's growing needs; Station 23 in Grand Terrace received a remodel and an additional 800 square feet

in space. The approximate \$650,000 project, fully funded by the City of Grand Terrace, consisted of a complete interior redesign, modernizing the station and making it more energy efficient. This station is now capable of supporting a four person engine company.

Joshua Tree's Station 36 also underwent a remodel, and an additional 500 square feet was added to the station to accommodate a training room and living quarters. County Fire funded the approximate \$42,000 project in which most of the construction and work was completed by County firefighters themselves, saving taxpayers thousands of dollars in labor costs.

MOVING FORWARD *cont'd.*

OES Expansion Complete

In 2009, the County Fire Office of Emergency Services (OES) facilitated the completion of the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) facility expansion project. Over 1,500 square feet of critically needed space was added to the existing EOC building including a large training and meeting room, and offices for the Grants Unit. The large training room includes the capability to divide the area into two break-out rooms for use during EOC activations for Planning and Intelligence and Operations sections, or for use as a Joint Information Center (JIC).

The expansion includes technology to support video and power point needs of presenters/trainers, and EOC activations. The new expansion has also been a perfect place to house the Video Teleconference (VTC) System, purchased

by the California Emergency Management Agency, and dedicated for each of the 58 Operational Areas in the State of California.

The first official use of the EOC expansion was in December when the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer class was held in December 2009 for over 30 students.

The EOC expansion project was made possible by the award of an EOC Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency along with matching funds provided by County of San Bernardino's General Fund. It is noteworthy to mention that San Bernardino County was the only jurisdiction in the State of California to be awarded this competitive national grant in Fiscal Year 2008.

Wildland Fires Strike San Bernardino County

Firefighters battled three significant wildland fires in 2009; Oak Glen, Pendleton and Sheep Fires.

The end of August brought the Oak Glen Fire, which burned in an area of Oak Glen that had not burned in over 80 years, scorching 1,159 acres and destroying two non-occupied structures. A day after the Oak Glen Fire started, a brush fire began in Yucaipa, known as the Pendleton Fire. This fire burned 860 acres and damaged one structure.

In October, an arsonist set brush ablaze north of Lytle Creek, causing the Sheep Fire. This wind driven fire burned 7,128 acres and destroyed/damaged five structures. Firefighters were able to keep the fire from entering the mountain communities of Lytle Creek and Wrightwood. San Bernardino County Fire's Gel Task Force saved several structures, including the historical Clyde Ranch in Lone Pine Canyon.







NRCS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Forest Health

“A thinner forest is a healthier forest.” For nearly a decade, area drought made trees tightly packed onto mountain slopes compete for too little moisture. Projects funded by a \$70 million grant were completed in 2009. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided the award to the County of San Bernardino in FY 2004 for the removal of dead, dying and diseased trees on private property in the San Bernardino National Forest. The now completed project encompassed private lands from Wrightwood to Oak Glen.

In 2002 Southern California was going through one of the worst droughts in recorded history. With years of conservation, the local mountain communities were filled with tight stands of old growth trees. Insects were able to infest the trees and a catastrophic die off took place. The insects struck so quickly and with such voracity that many residents lost every tree on their lot. Stricken property owners now feared threat of fire and the astronomical cost of removing the dead, dying and diseased trees from their property. Stands of tinder dry trees threatened the ignitability of the entire forest. San Bernardino County mountain communities and agencies faced what a County Fire official called, “the greatest predictable disaster in the state.”

As local, state, and federal agencies worked to address concerns about the stands of dead, dying and diseased trees and the potential for a catastrophic forest fire taking place in Southern California, the worst happened. In the fall of 2003 the Old Fire burned through the San Bernardino Mountains destroying 970 structures and burning 91,281 acres. Congressman Jerry Lewis and Senator Diane Feinstein quickly responded to this and other Southern California wildfires that year with NRCS funding through its Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program. San Bernardino County was allocated a \$70 million share of the NRCS funding. Through a cooperative effort between the San Bernardino County Flood Control District and County Fire, the Fire Fuels Management Program was formed. During a 5-year-

period, private loggers removed 411,000 trees and treated 36,395 acres.

Since 2002, the Mountain Area Safety Taskforce (MAST) formulated an ambitious plan. The objectives were to reduce fuel and remove tightly packed ground vegetation, begin reforestation and create “defensible space” fire barriers in and around developed areas. MAST members and County Fire created fuel breaks on the mountain and thinned the forest. Up to 1.5 million dead, dying and diseased trees were removed from both public and private lands with a variety of funds including the \$70 million federal NRCS award and efforts coordinated by MAST, members. NRCS funds made it possible to focus efforts on watershed protection and soil conservation efforts in the San Bernardino Mountains and to launch watershed protection efforts on private lands. NRCS is the federal soil conservation organization, and debris flow and soil loss often occur as a result of burned vegetation and from conditions that follow a significant wildfire.

On November 25, 2009 the last project funded with the NRCS EWP funds was completed. In all, the Fire Fuels Management Program administered 935 contracts with private logging companies under NRCS funds. Significant work to thin the forest, protect soil and properties include both the \$70 million NRCS award and MAST projects:

- Removal of up to 1.5 million dead, dying and diseased trees,
- Protection of major broadcast and emergency communications structures in the San Bernardino mountains,
- Clearing county roads and evacuation routes out of mountain areas,
- Conversion of small diameter trees into commercial products including PVC-covered lumber for fencing and usable quality logs processed into lumber for pallets,

- Diversion of woody debris for use as fuel for biomass plants, which included the Mitsubishi Cement Plant near Lucerne Valley and others,
- Millions of tons of wood chips provided to various agencies for landscaping, such as CALTRANS.

The fuels management work continues. As a result of the Grass Valley and Slide Fires of 2007, County Fire received new grant funding from the United States Forest Service as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The following awards support work to reduce hazardous fuels and other projects in the San Bernardino County Mountain communities:

- \$13.5 million in United States Forest Service assistance funds for the continuation of fuels reduction in the San Bernardino Mountains through July 14, 2013. A total local match of \$1.5 million comes from the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District;
- \$3.15 million in an award from America Recovery and Reinvestment Act, for fuels reduction projects

in the San Bernardino Mountains through July 31, 2012;

- \$400,000 in American Red Cross Recovery and Assistance Phase II funds for Land Use Services to administer programs which also includes \$200,000 in funding assistance to low-income households to reduce hazardous fuels on their respective properties to reduce the threat of potential fire danger, and another \$200,000 to increase signage for mountain evacuation routes aiding mountain residents and visitors to find a safe emergency through route out of the mountains,
- \$350,000 in Forest Service grant funds to administer and create contracts through its Hazardous Tree Removal Program operated by San Bernardino Flood Control District for the Arrowhead Communities Fire Safe Council.



SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Services Division

Support Services Division is made up of Vehicle Services, Service Center (Warehouse), SCBA Program and Facilities Maintenance. All units within the division adhere to established and uniform standards for products and service, excellence and safety. The Division Manager oversees operations and manages the division with the assistance of two supervisors. Support Services ensures equipment and supplies meet standards.

Vehicle Services

Vehicle Services is responsible for maintenance and repair of vehicles and equipment for County Fire and contracts. Contract cities include Loma Linda Fire, Rialto Fire, and Colton Fire, as well as other agencies including Crafton Hills College, Crest Forest Fire District, San Bernardino International Airport and the State Office of Emergency Services Fire & Rescue Division. Vehicle Services personnel maintain, repair, perform fabrications and regularly inspect about 720 pieces of equipment. The supervisor and two lead mechanics work with a team of mechanics to assure that all items that leave the shop meet high standards. Items repaired are diverse and require an array of skill sets that a large shop of adept mechanics provides. Items serviced and repaired include: chain saws, generators, command vehicles, bulldozers, snow cats, fire engines, and any “rolling stock” in use by County Fire and contract cities. Sometimes this means the Vehicle Services team customizes, redesigns and converts such things as old water tenders and smaller brush patrol vehicles into other useful equipment to prolong the life of the equipment and to better serve communities. Vehicle Services responds to increased service demands caused by major fires and other emergencies. In 2009 mechanics were assigned to the Station Fire, Oak Glen and Pendleton Fires. Specialized towing support is provided for fire apparatus and related fire equipment. This service offers an in-house cost savings, and allows

for immediate towing during emergency activities.

All parts are purchased through a bid process and sold on a simple cost recovery that provides a 30% to 50% savings to contract agencies over other repair options. Vehicle Services carries a large volume of work for its agencies, and in 2009, expenditures for parts and sublet amounted to \$1,736,176.

Service Center

The Service Center orders, receives and distributes supplies and equipment. Service Center staff members fill online orders and hand-written requisitions and provide pick-up and delivery to fire stations and divisions within County Fire. Daily functions also include outfitting new hires with uniforms and personal



protective equipment along with replacing safety clothing for current personnel. The Service Center provides critical logistical support for large-scale incidents. Logistical support may include delivering both meals and equipment and other related requests to an incident. In addition, the Service Center works with grant-related purchases, tracking and deliveries. In 2009, the Service Center spent \$1,231,912 for equipment and supplies. This allows County Fire to realize a 30% savings over other purchasing options.

SCBA Program and Facilities Maintenance

The safety and reliability of all Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) is the responsibility of a new division within Support Services begun in 2007.

The goal of the staff of two is to standardize, track, maintain and service all SCBAs. They inspect, test and maintain 693 breathing apparatus, 1,623 cylinders and 1,238 masks. Annual flow testing and mask fit testing assure that every firefighter has good working equipment and a properly fitted mask when an SCBA is needed.

Facilities Maintenance has assigned a staff person to complete minor repairs and maintenance needed throughout the Fire Department, including annual fire extinguisher inspections. In 2009, Facilities Maintenance set up a trailer at Norton Facility Service Center for testing and maintaining Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.



COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Community Safety Division's responsibilities include enforcement of codes and ordinances, plan review and inspection of commercial buildings, fire investigations/law enforcement, public education, post-disaster damage assessment and safety oversight

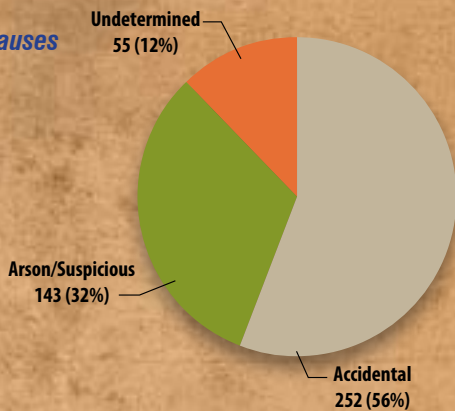
of special events that occur within the County. The Division's professional staff is dedicated to providing a comprehensive life-safety role for all citizens served by the County Fire Department.

Investigations

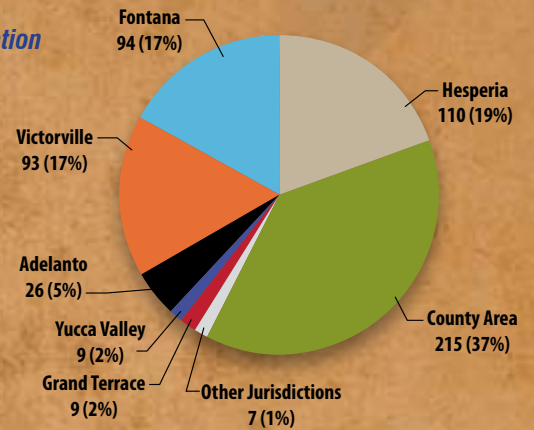
The mission of the Fire Investigation Unit is to investigate fires in order to determine cause and origin, as well as to identify and apprehend those persons responsible for the commission of arson and crimes related to arson. The Unit also investigates negligent fires and pursues cost recovery, conducts Dangerous Fireworks Interdiction operations, juvenile firesetter interventions, assists Fire and other County departments in inspection/search warrants and provides other law enforcement related functions as needed and during emergencies.

The Fire Investigation Unit consists of a Captain-level Fire Investigation Supervisor and four Investigators. All Investigators are sworn peace officers and work closely with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Arson/Bomb detail, CalFire, local law enforcement as well as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the US Consumer Products Safety Commission to both investigate fires and determine if faulty consumer products pose a hazard to the public.

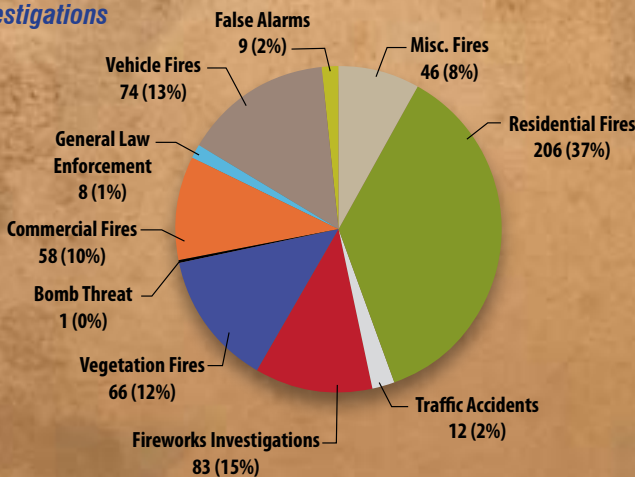
Fire Causes



Calls by Location



Investigations



Inspections

The Division's Fire Safety Inspection Program provides annual inspections of all industrial, commercial and institutional occupancies to ensure compliance with local and state fire code regulations. Firefighters conduct routine fire safety inspections while Division Inspectors conduct the more technical and complex inspections. Inspections include new construction, fire safety, State Fire Marshal required

inspections (including high rise, jail, board and care, and day care facilities) as well as enforce applicable fire codes and ordinances throughout the County and in the contract cities of Adelanto, Fontana, Hesperia, Needles, and Victorville. Division Inspectors also coordinate activities with city and county building officials.

Planning & Engineering

The Planning and Engineering Section works with developers, architects, and engineers to meet fire protection requirements for buildings and developments by reviewing all architectural blueprints, development plans, and proposals submitted within County Fire jurisdiction.

The Planning and Engineering Section provides fire protection and engineering consultation services to city contracts and county planning staff for tentative tract, parcel maps, and other land use proposals that require

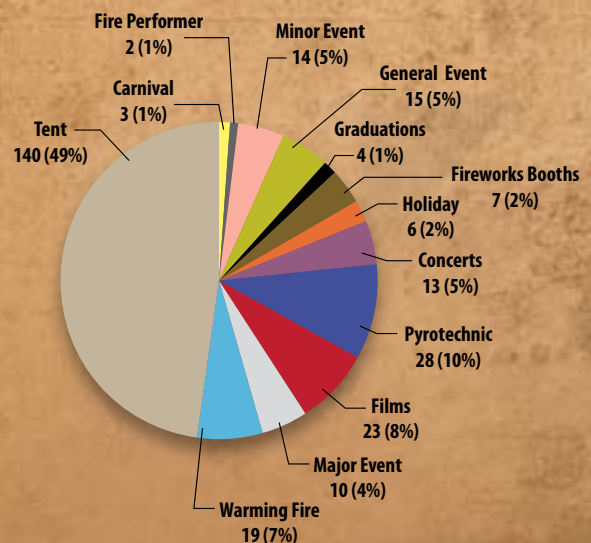
Fire Department input. This service also includes plan check and engineering review of specific risks (industrial, commercial, institutional, and multifamily dwellings) for conformance with fire code requirements and state fire and life safety regulations. The Planning & Engineering Section also provides public and private water system expertise, along with plan checks of hydraulically calculated automatic extinguishing systems.

Special Events

The Special Events Section provides planning, permitting and inspection services for many types of special and temporary events throughout the County; to include NASCAR, public display fireworks, film shoots, minor to major events, tents and concerts.

In addition to the above issued permit types, the following are just a few film shoots that occurred within the County areas: Jessie James is a Dead Man, Victoria Secret, Verizon Blackberry Storm, Verizon Android, Calvin Klein Cologne, Nitro Circus, Operation Repo, and several "made for television" movies.

Special Events Permits



COMMUNITY SAFETY *cont'd.*

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES	COUNTY AREAS	CITY OF FONTANA	CITY OF HESPERIA	CITY OF VICTORVILLE	TOTALS
Investigations	266	94	110	93	563
Special Events	284	Included with County	12	34	330
Annual Inspections	522	No program	949	2,000	3,471
Plan Checks	1,227	852	468	60	2,607
Planning Inspections	1,170	1,782	308	125	3,385
Public Education	138	32	12	79	261

Public Education

The Public Education Section is dedicated to educating the public to be safe in and around their home, work and recreation. Public Education staff conducts Community Safety events, school and business presentations, interactive demonstrations with our Fire Safety Trailer, interventions with

firesetters, specialty campaigns, community leaders through numerous meetings and collaborations within the communities we serve, at regional and state level. In 2009 alone, over 90,500 citizens were benefited by the efforts of the Public Education staff.

Damage Assessment

The Community Safety Damage Assessment Team is a multi-disciplined, cooperative group of experts. Participants in this group include the Community Safety Division, Hazardous Materials, Assessor, Building & Safety, Code Enforcement, Law Enforcement and others whose mission is to go out into the devastation and evaluate post-disaster losses in order to provide

clear information to the Board of Supervisors, as well as a multitude of other local, State and Federal Agencies. Using this information, these agencies obtain funding and other relief that is desperately needed by the citizens of San Bernardino County after a catastrophic incident.

Juvenile Firesetter Intervention

The Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program (JFS) is a professionally structured and comprehensive program based upon the “Fire F.R.I.E.N.D.S.” program. The Program is a national collaboration of community-based partners joined together to reduce the number of deaths, burn injuries and the amount of property destruction caused by juvenile fire setting.

“Fire F.R.I.E.N.D.S.” incorporates aspects of fire education, behavioral health and the juvenile justice system. The focus is to provide a rehabilitative approach to the education, treatment and rehabilitation of the juvenile firesetter. In 2009, the JFS program reached twenty-two (22) juveniles.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

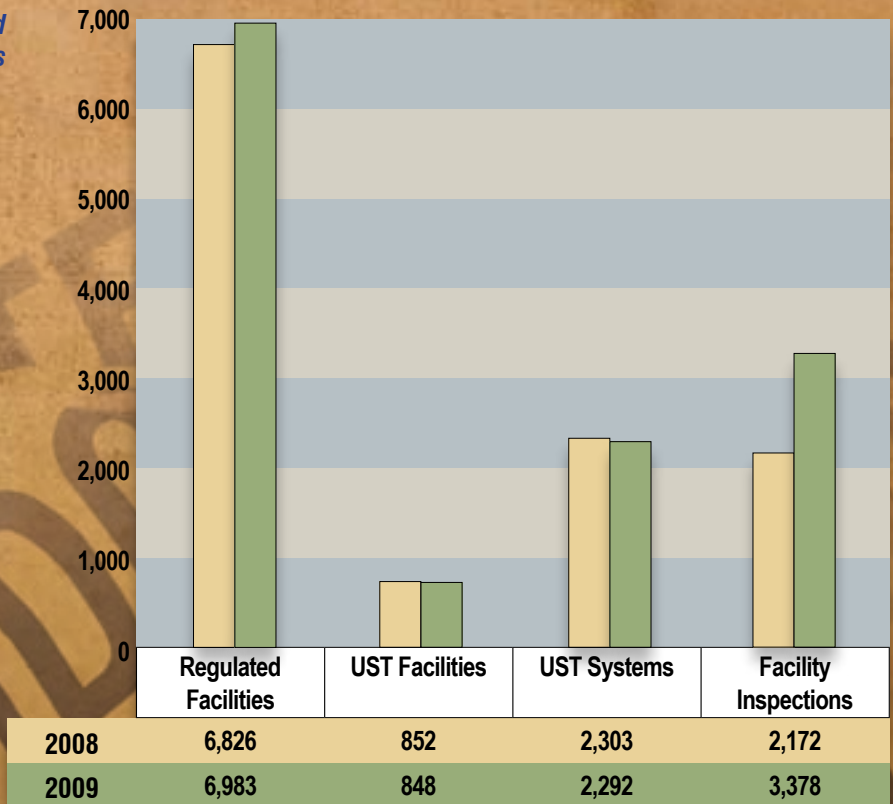
The Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) Division protects the health and safety of the public and the environment by improving the management of hazardous materials through inspection, emergency response, site remediation, and hazardous waste management services. Hazmat serves the entire County of San Bernardino including its incorporated cities. The Division is very proactive and involved at the State level with legislative and regulatory developments and other statewide efforts in order to keep high quality, effective, and achievable hazardous materials and waste management programs. Hazmat is engaged in preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from incidents involving hazardous materials and wastes. Our basic approach is education through field inspection, consultation, and public outreach.

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program is committed to providing safe and efficient hazardous waste management services to protect health, natural resources and the environment. HHW manages and

operates permanent and temporary HHW/Universal Waste collection facilities and events, and compiles a variety of waste management reports required by state and municipal agencies. HHW strives to establish new HHW collections and expand existing facilities to accommodate emerging HHW waste streams. Services include door-to-door HHW management services for the elderly and disabled, and providing HHW management services to small businesses. HHW staff provide comprehensive training to all county and municipal HHW facility and event staff, educate County residences and businesses, and distribute free household products and paint through a material re-use store.

The program collects Home-Generated Sharps (HGS) at eleven permanent and all temporary HHW collection facilities. Program staff transports the HGS to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for treatment in their permitted state-of-the-art Microwave Disinfection Unit, currently at no cost to the program.

Regulated Facilities and Facility Inspections

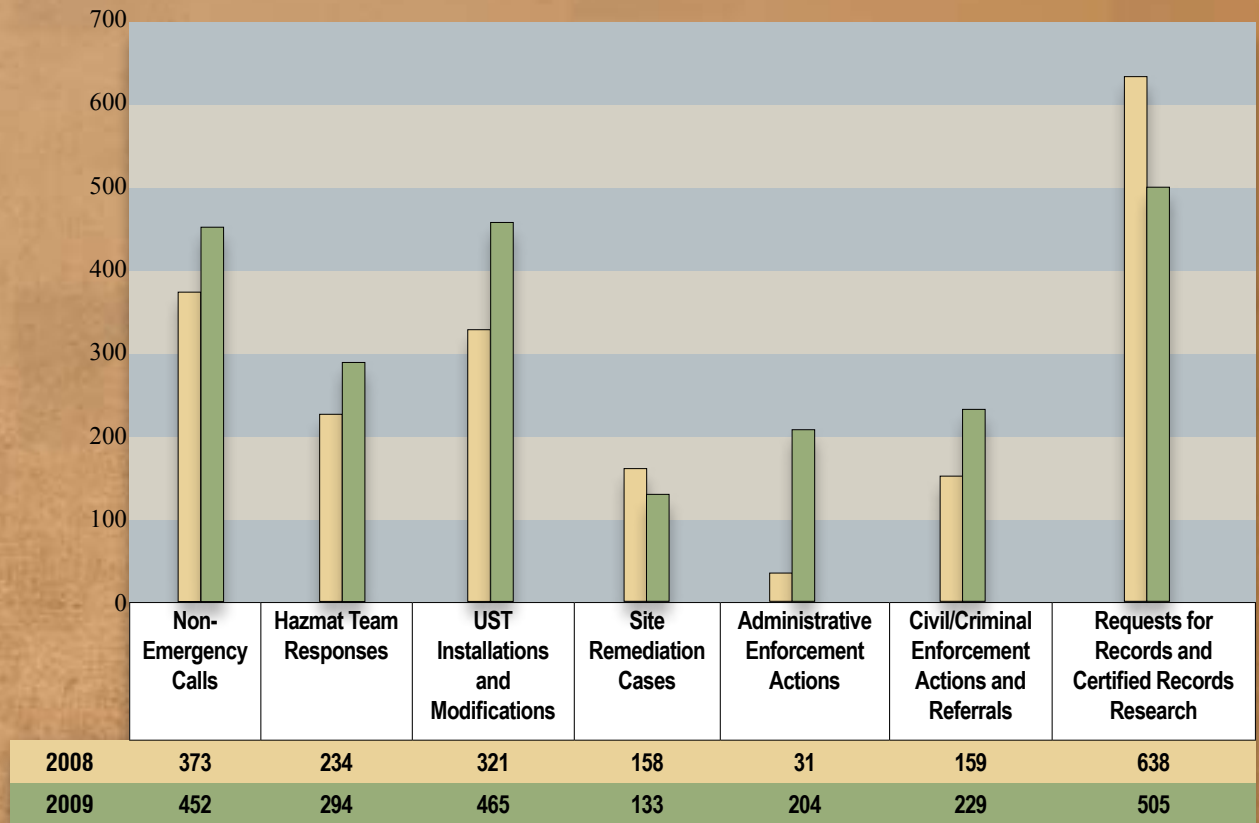




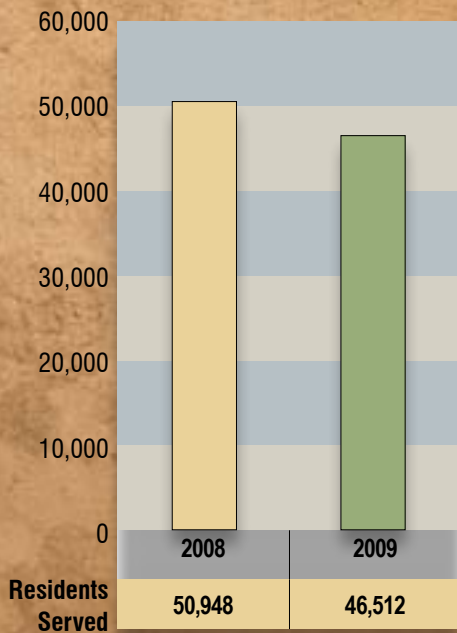
Regulation, Response, Remediation STATs	2008	2009
Regulated Facilities	6,826	6,983
Facility Inspections	2,172	3,378
Non-Emergency Calls	373	452
Hazmat Team Responses	234	294
UST Facilities	852	848
UST Systems	2,303	2,292
UST Installations & Modifications	321	465
Site Remediation Cases	158	133
Requests for Records & Certified Records Research	638	505
Administrative Enforcement Actions	31	204
Civil/Criminal Enforcement Actions and Referrals	159	229
Household and Small Business Waste STATs		
HHW Permanent & Temporary Facilities	28	28
Pounds of Hazardous Waste Managed	3,781,766	3,549,831
Residents served	50,948	46,512
Businesses served	279	311
Budget - Regulation, Response, Remediation	\$7,212,083	\$7,490,507
Positions	46	47
Budget - Household and Small Business Waste Disposal	\$3,222,768	\$2,929,446
Positions	21	20
Total Hazmat Division Budget	\$10,434,851	\$10,419,953
Total Hazmat Division Positions	67	67

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

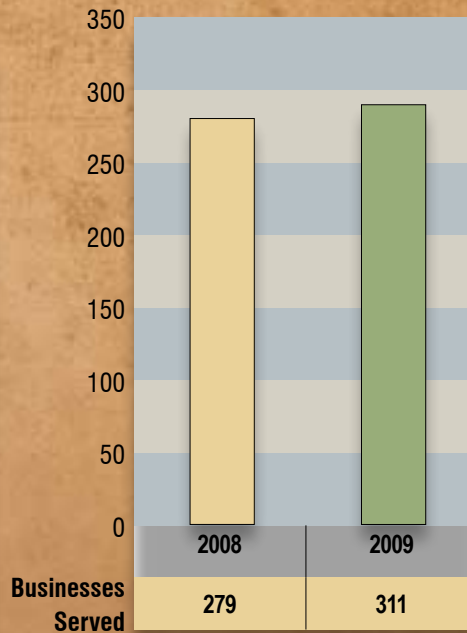
Response and Other Hazmat Services



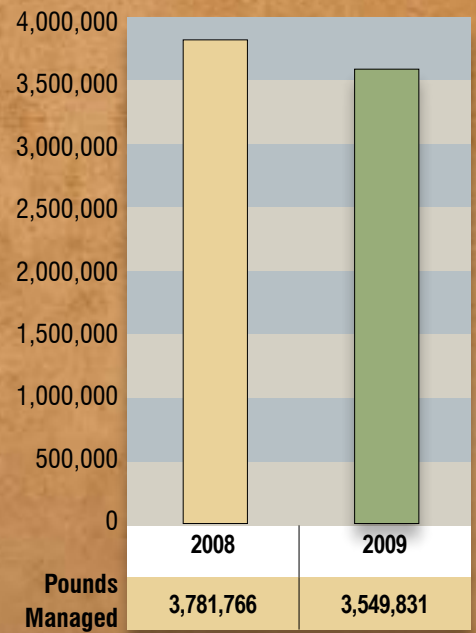
Residents Served by Household Hazardous Waste Program



Businesses Served by Household Hazardous Waste Program



Pounds of Hazardous Waste Managed





VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer Organizations Provide Support

Trained volunteers provide backbone support during emergency events in San Bernardino County communities. The Office of Emergency Services (OES) Division is responsible for two volunteer organizations that made exceptional contributions in service to OES and the citizens of San Bernardino County: Emergency Communications Service (ECS) and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). ECS volunteers, at a minimum, are licensed Technician Radio Operators and provide emergency communication services via amateur radio. CERT volunteers are trained in various disaster preparedness and response activities so that they can help themselves, their family and their community during a disaster.

ECS has grown from a struggling volunteer group to a professional, front-line communications, technical and logistical support unit under the organizational leadership of volunteer Zack Mullennix. In his role as Chief Radio Officer, Mullennix has expanded training of ECS amateur radio operators to significant levels. Of its active members, nearly 100 are trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS). More than 70 members are field-certified for support of Hazardous Materials Awareness assignments. ECS members have also completed an 8-hour course focused on the Emergency Responders Handbook so volunteers can provide higher quality information in their radio communications. Some ECS volunteers have gone so far as completion of a 24-hour class on fire behavior

and basic incident command to upgrade their expertise for radio communication.

ECS volunteers come from nearly every profession, i.e., teachers, retired police officers, firefighters, structural engineers, retired armed forces personnel as well as a retired epidemiologist. Ages are diverse, and females are increasing their involvement too. All take their work seriously and they work closely with fire and professional emergency personnel to ensure radio communications are maintained during an emergency.

Significant ECS accomplishments in 2009 include the delivery and set up of radios for numerous San Bernardino County Departments including Public Works, Public Health, Preschool Services, and the Department of Behavioral Health. These departments now have their own amateur radio equipment and have trained staff to use it. ECS supports the desire for a more prepared and safer San Bernardino County.

ECS members were very productive in 2009, volunteering over 7,000 hours. Dozens of Master Training Directive classes were conducted. ECS trained volunteers provided communications and logistical support for 18 separate public events in 2009 that required communications and technical support services due to the event scale and impact. ECS volunteers provided radio communications and technical support during the Oak Glen/Pendleton wildfire emergency by providing support to the County Fire command posts. ECS provided computer and network services support,



deployment and operation of satellite communications, collection and dissemination of fire incident photos and other technical support. During the Sheep Fire, ECS coordinated communications between the County EOC, Incident Command Post at Glen Helen Regional Park and the community of Wrightwood. Major out-of-County assistance was provided at the Los Angeles County Station Fire where ECS provided inter-agency communications between Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County Operational Areas.

ECS supports non-incident events as well including NASCAR Events and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Baker to Vegas Run (B2V). During the 2009 B2V Race, ECS had the opportunity to support a participating team from Hamburg, Germany Police Department.

Since 1996 Mullennix has provided more than 16,000 hours of volunteer service, averaging 1,300 hours per year. Assemblymember Wilmer Carter honored him for his dedicated service to the citizens of San Bernardino County at a volunteer recognition ceremony held at the County Government Center.

Another avenue for community volunteerism includes the San Bernardino County Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services (OES) Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. This program engages community and family safety programs as a way to prepare communities for potential emergencies, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism. Through CERT training, community members are prepared to help themselves, their family, and their neighbors in the event of a large-scale disaster.

In 2009 new CERT program development included the addition of the Oak Hills Disaster Team, Lake Arrowhead Mountain CERT, which also encompasses Running Springs and Green Valley Lake, and the newly formed Morongo Basin Emergency Response Team, which includes the City of Twentynine Palms and the Town of Yucca Valley. Currently, 16 active CERT programs in the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County and 11 programs in the incorporated cities and towns are trained and ready.

To become a CERT member, volunteers must pass a Department of Justice (DOJ) background check. During 2009 more than 400 CERT members from the unincorporated areas completed the DOJ background checks and were sworn in as disaster service workers. The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, San Bernardino Sheriff's Office, and San Bernardino County Fire Department/OES supported this aspect of the CERT program.

An Ad-Hoc committee was recently formed to support the development of a Concept of Operations (ConOps) for community CERT Programs. This CERT ConOps will provide a standardized set of guidance tools to assist in the development of a volunteer Citizen Corps Sub-Council and CERT programs. Members of the Ad-Hoc Committee include County Fire Battalion Chiefs and Fire Captains who help train and coordinate community programs throughout the County.

ECS and CERT volunteers work long and hard to train and learn the skills necessary to be counted on when we need them most...during a disaster.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

When firefighters team up for the benefit of the community, great things happen. County Fire employees live up to their Service Motto, “Duty, Honor, Community”, in part, by remaining actively involved in their communities. In 2009, their community service took many forms.

San Bernardino County Fire personnel were part of a caravan of engines participating in the annual Quest Rally fundraiser for The Firefighters Quest for Burn Survivors. The San Bernardino County Firefighters Association donated over \$5,000 to this great cause. Throughout the year, the Firefighters Association held fundraisers donating all proceeds to the organization. Firefighters Quest for Burn Survivors is a non-profit organization managed by firefighters and civilians who volunteer their services and are dedicated to assist those that have been affected by burn injuries.

The County Fire Hazbins Team rode for its 4th year in the Annual MS150 Bay to Bay bike ride (over 100 miles in 2 days) to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. In the four years the team has been riding, they have raised over \$33,000 in donations. These donations came from individuals, small businesses and corporations, all providing generous donations direct to MS through the Hazbins team.

County Fire continued its support of the Loma Linda based Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southern California, a volunteer organization dedicated to providing emotional, social, educational, and emergency assistance to families who have or have had a child with cancer. This year Community Safety and Emergency Medical Service personnel posed for

a photo shoot with children who have fallen victim to cancer. The photos were used for a calendar fundraiser.

County Fire was an active participant in the “Relay for Life”, a benefit for the American Cancer Society, and “Tip-A-Firefighter” fundraisers benefiting St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital; raising thousands.

County Fire personnel once again braved the mud pits, hill climbs, low crawls and other grueling obstacles at the Annual Sheriff’s Mud Run. Runners ran through the sounds of machine gun fire, explosions and low flying helicopters all for a good cause. Profits gained by the run went to the Concerns of Police Survivors Foundation (C.O.P.S), as well as Loma Linda Children Hospital and Community Action Partnership. A donation was also made to the two families of the fallen firefighters who recently lost their lives fighting the Station Fire in Los Angeles County.

Firefighters took to the ball field at Maverick Stadium in Adelanto for a friendly rival game of softball against deputies from the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department. Over \$6,000 was raised for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

County Fire personnel volunteered countless hours assisting crews from ABC’s television series Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. Numerous volunteers constructed a new residence, a learning center for visitors and an animal exercise facility for the Almquist family who operate the Forever Wild Exotic Animal Sanctuary in Phelan.

At Christmas, County Fire stations participated in toy giveaways that distributed over 11,300 toys



and electronics to disadvantaged families through the annual “Spark of Love” Toy Drive sponsored by Southern California fire departments and KABC Channel 7, and various other organizations. Toys from public donations, or purchased with money donated for that purpose, were collected at County Fire stations.

Explorers from the Victorville Division joined forces with the Victorville Sheriff Explorers to raise funds to benefit their community. They were successful in raising enough money to purchase 53 holiday dinners for families in need.

County Fire’s Public Education Program exceeded its expectations far and wide across San Bernardino County, reaching out to over 90,500 people through public education programs, community safety events, school/business presentations, interactive demonstrations with the fire safety trailer, interventions with firesetters, and more. The Fire Safety Trailer was present at many community events County wide, including National Night Out celebrations, safety fairs, children’s programs, and senior citizen events. Approximately 45,000 kids were reached during Fire Prevention Week in October, educating them on the theme “Stay Fire Smart! Don’t Get Burned.” The 09 campaign focused on teaching children how to prevent scalds and other painful burns.





Firefighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God wherever flames may rage,
give me strength to save a life, whatever be its age.

Help me to embrace a little child before it's too late,
or save an older person from the horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert to hear the weakest shout,
and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling and to give the best in me,
to guard my neighbor and protect his property.

And if according to your will I have to lose my life,
bless with your protecting hand my loving family from strife.

Amen

IN LOVING MEMORY

*County Fire Family...
Forever in Our Memory*



Marshall Hayes

November 9, 1959 – November 27, 2009
Fire Mechanic, Support Services Division

You will be missed, but never forgotten...



Our Brothers...Lost in the Line of Duty

On October 17, 2009, three San Bernardino County firefighters were added to the California Fire Foundation's Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Sacramento. Their names were among 82 that were added to the memorial, which now includes the names of over 1,000 firefighters from throughout California who have lost their lives in the line of duty.



Captain William Vance Caswell III
February 8, 1952 - August 5, 2005
Victorville Fire Department
28 Years of Service



Captain Vance Tomaselli
June 21, 1947 – February 21, 2008
28 Years of Service



Engineer Eddie Keen
July 1, 1949 – July 14, 2008
33 Years of Service



San Bernardino County Fire Department

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