



SAN BERNARDINO
COUNTY

Fire



JULY 2016 – JUNE 2017
ANNUAL REPORT



DENA M. SMITH
Interim Chief Executive Officer

CEO MESSAGE

Each day, the dedicated men and women of County Fire move us closer to achieving our Countywide Vision by keeping us safe, making our county attractive to visitors and employers, projecting a positive image, and effectively collaborating with our cities and towns, community stakeholders, and other county departments. County Fire continues to pursue initiatives aimed at serving our county community more effectively and efficiently, including air ambulance service, ground transportation, and assisting jurisdictions in annexing to the County Fire District. I look forward to continuing to work closely with County Fire as we create a county in which those who reside and invest can prosper and achieve well-being.

Dena M. Smith
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNTY VISION STATEMENT

We envision a complete county that capitalizes on the diversity of its people, its geography, and its economy to create a broad range of choices for its residents in how they live, work, and play.

We envision a vibrant economy with a skilled workforce that attracts employers who seize the opportunities presented by the County's unique advantages and provide the jobs that create countywide prosperity.

We envision a sustainable system of high quality education, community health, public safety, housing, retail, recreation, arts and culture, and infrastructure, in which development complements our natural resources and environment.

We envision a model community which is governed in an open and ethical manner, where great ideas are replicated and brought to scale, and all sectors work collaboratively to reach shared goals.

From our valleys, across our mountains, and into our deserts, we envision a county that is a destination for visitors and a home for anyone seeking a sense of community and the best life has to offer.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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JAMES C. RAMOS
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Fifth District Supervisor

Our MOTTOS



VISION

Committed to providing Premier Fire Services

STANDARD OF COMMITMENT

Where Courage, Integrity and Service meet

SERVICE

Duty, Honor, Community

MISSION STATEMENT

“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.”



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*Photo contributions by SBcoFire photographers
Louis Penna & Brandon Barsugli unless otherwise noted.*



YOUR FIRE CHIEF

On behalf of the men and women of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, I am proud to provide an overview of the District over the past year. One of the only things that remains the same at County Fire is that things are always changing. We know that it is expensive to provide Fire, Rescue, and EMS services so we work hard to find ways to provide value to you the taxpayer. We have created several new programs that lower the cost to provide services and increase revenue. We are also working closely with other County Departments to spread expenses and share resources.

This past year we were approached by some of our neighbors in order to see if entering into some sort of partnership made sense operationally and financially. Sometimes partnerships make sense and sometimes they don't. In the case of Upland, we formalized a relationship that will take effect July of 2017. As important as it is to provide value to our investors (county taxpayers), providing service with highly qualified and experienced professionals is our highest priority. We make significant investments in our employees and empower them to make decisions to resolve challenges at hand. As large as the County Fire District is, remaining accountable to each customer in every community remains our focus.

We believe that there is no greater service that a government can provide its residents than Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Care. We are honored to be your provider and stand ready to serve you.

Yours in Service,

Mark A. Hartwig

Fire Chief/Fire Warden



Communities *SERVED*

City of Adelanto
Amboy
Angelus Oaks
Baker
Baldy Mesa
Barton Flats
Big River
Black Meadow Landing
Bloomington
Blue Jay
Cedar Glen

Crest Park
Crestline
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
Lake Gregory
Landers

Lucerne Valley
Ludlow
Lytle Creek
Mentone
Mount Baldy
Mountain Home Village
Mountain Pass
Mountain View Acres
Muscoy
City of Needles
Oak Hills

Oro Grande
Panorama Heights
Park Moabi
Phelan
Pinon Hills
Pioneertown
Red Mountain
San Antonio Heights
City of San Bernardino
Searles Valley/Trona
Silver Lakes

Sky Forest
Spring Valley Lake
Summit Valley
City of Twentynine Palms
Twin Peaks
City of Victorville
Windy Acres
Wonder Valley
Wrightwood
Town of Yucca Valley



Organization Chart



At A GLANCE

San Bernardino County is the fifth largest county in California in terms of population, with just over two million residents, and the largest county in the contiguous U.S. in terms of land area.



20,160

Square Miles in County



19,278

Square Miles Covered by County Fire



Over 2 Million

Population of San Bernardino County



24

Incorporated Cities



67

Number of Active Fire Stations



1,017

Number of County Fire Personnel



654

Number of Fire Suppression Personnel



126,150

2016/17 Calls for Service



\$204,637,575

County Fire Budget



Personnel & Equipment



Position	SBCoFire	Upland Fire
Fire Chief	1	
Deputy Chief	2	
Assistant Chief	7	
Fire Marshal	1	
Deputy Fire Marshal	2	
Division Chief	1	
Battalion Chief	23	3
Captain	169	12
Engineer	165	12
Firefighter	229	12
*Paid-Call Firefighter	54	
Suppression Total	654	39
Professional Staff	247	5
Fire Suppression Aides	32	
Ambulance Operators	84	
TOTAL PERSONNEL	1,017	44

*Paid-Call Firefighters fluctuate throughout the year.
7/22/17 Upland Fire will annex into SBCoFire

Equipment	SBCoFire	Upland Fire
Airport Rescue Units	6	
Ambulances	36	
Boats	3	
Brush Engines (Type 3)	27	
Brush Patrols (Type 6)	31	1
Command Posts	4	1
Communication Support Vehicles	1	1
Crew Carriers	9	
Dozers	2	
Fire Engines (Type 1 & Type 2)	96	8
Foam Units	1	
Hazardous Materials Rigs	5	1
Hazardous Materials Squads	6	
Ladder Trucks	13	1
Loaders	9	
Rescues	8	
Snow Cats	8	
Squads	13	
Water Tenders	23	

Statistics BY DIVISION

Calls for Service

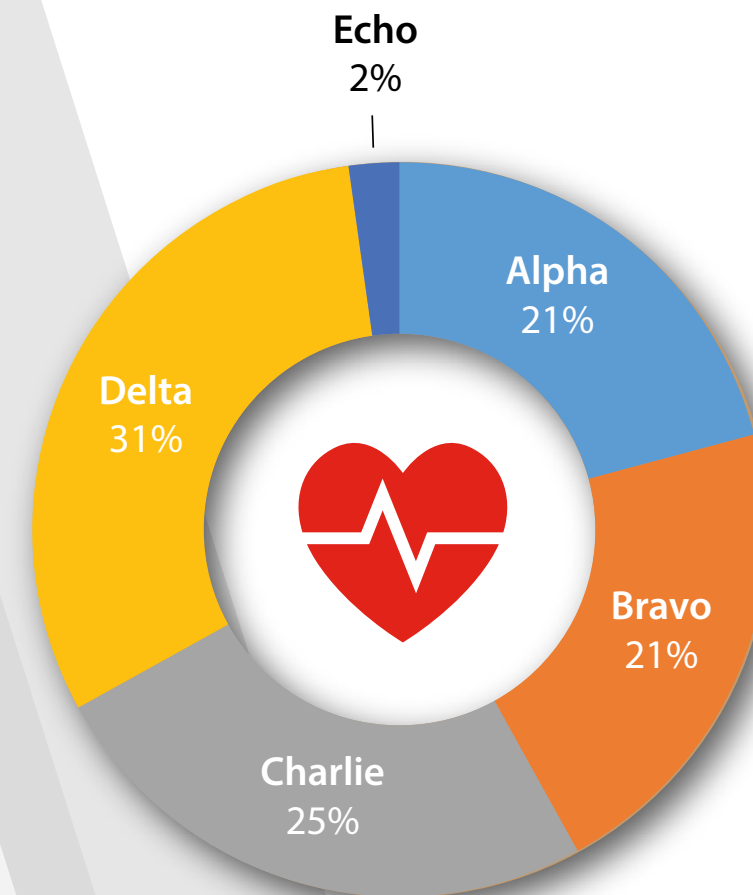
INCIDENT TYPE	DIVISION 1 (West Valley)	DIVISION 2 (North Desert)	DIVISION 3 (High Desert)	DIVISION 4 (Mountain)	DIVISION 5 (South Desert)	DIVISION 6 (East Valley)	TOTALS FY 16/17
Structure Fire	356	163	384	93	116	441	1,553
Vegetation Fire	247	127	357	107	65	464	1,367
Vehicle Fire	222	171	265	29	88	405	1,180
Other Fire*	302	303	463	75	198	887	2,228
Fire Investigation/Fire Alarm	1,383	1,097	1,750	647	599	2,432	7,908
Hazardous Material**	273	180	160	172	85	419	1,289
Medical Response	16,109	14,714	23,526	3,059	8,706	32,005	98,119
Other Incident	1	6	2	1	2	10	22
Public Service	258	299	378	144	230	476	1,785
Rescue	51	25	25	34	15	43	193
Traffic Collision	1,851	1,545	2,031	309	597	3,581	9,914
Traffic Collision with Extrication	91	119	145	20	58	159	592
Fiscal Year Total	21,144	18,749	29,486	4,690	10,759	41,322	126,150

*Other Fires include rubbish fires, chimney fires, cooking fires, outside storage fires

**Haz-Mat Incidents include explosions, fireworks, hazardous materials such as chemical, biological, and electrical hazards with no fire involved

^On July 1, 2016 San Bernardino City and 29 Palms Fire Depts annexed into SBCoFire. Division 5 statistics reflect the inclusion of 29 Palms Fire stations. Division 6 was created and includes Mentone & San Bernardino.

In 2017, SBCoFire switched to a new improved data collection program that provides more accurate and precise statistics. Totals are reflective of new system.



Medical Aid Calls

The Medical Priority Dispatch System is used to dispatch appropriate aid to medical emergencies.

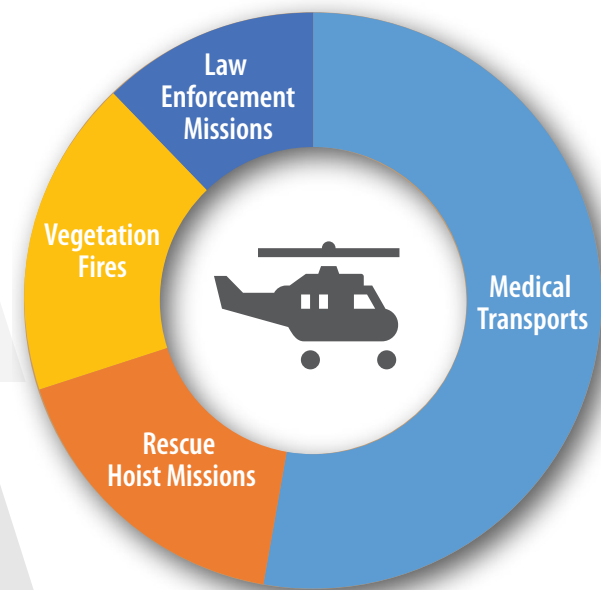
Alpha	Non-Life Threatening	Basic Life Support
Bravo	Possibly Life-Threatening	Basic Life Support
Charlie	Life-Threatening	Advanced Life Support
Delta	Serious Life Threat	Advanced Life Support
Echo	Life Status Questionable	Closest Available (Multiple Resources Sent)



AIRSHIP PROGRAM

Airship statistics are based on calendar year 2016.

County Fire in partnership with County Sheriff, staff the Sheriff's helicopter Mon-Thurs with a Captain/Paramedic and Firefighter/Paramedic.



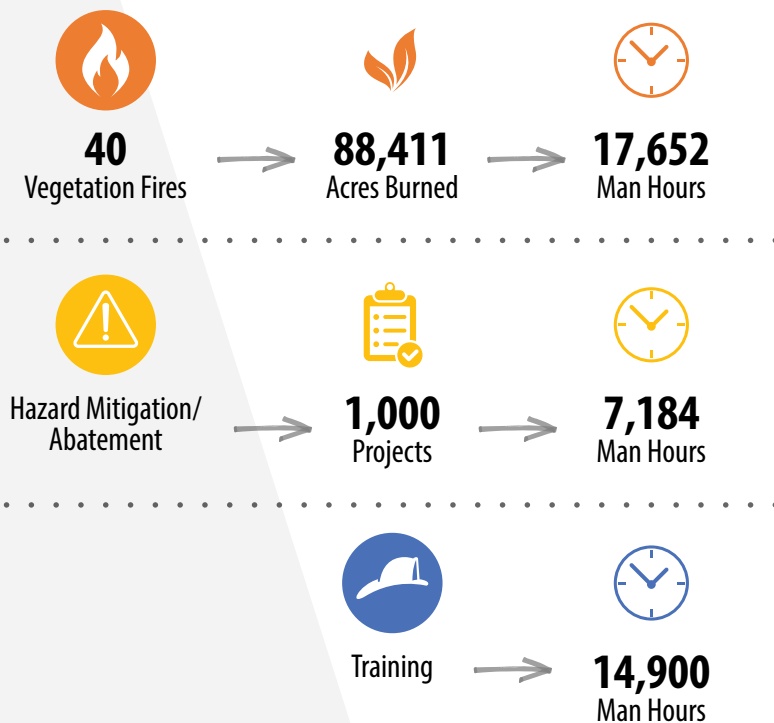
2016 Calls for Service

Medical Transports	87
Rescue Hoist Missions	27
*Patients Transported from Hoist Mission	17
Vegetation Fires	29
Law Enforcement Missions (Search & Rescue, SWAT calls)	20



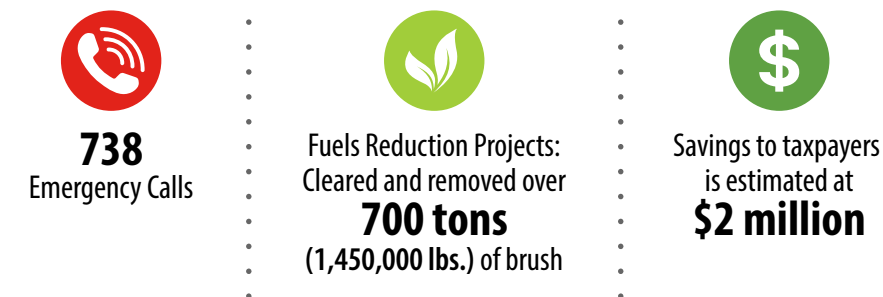
HAND CREW PROGRAM

SBCoFire is proud to have Old Cajon Crew 6-1, a professional hand crew that is available to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to their year-round availability, Old Cajon Crew 6-1 is augmented by seasonal hand crew members six months out of the year for a total of 30 members.



INMATE HAND CREW PROGRAM

SBCoFire in partnership with SBCoSheriff operates the County's Inmate Hand Crew Program. The inmate fire crew's main objective is to respond to fire suppression incidents, as well as other types of emergency operations such as sandbagging. The crews conduct overhaul and mop up operations, relieving firefighters and medic engines to return back to service. The crews also assist with local fuels reduction programs and chipping operations; assisting other county departments in meeting their mission in a cost effective manner.





Statistics



COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

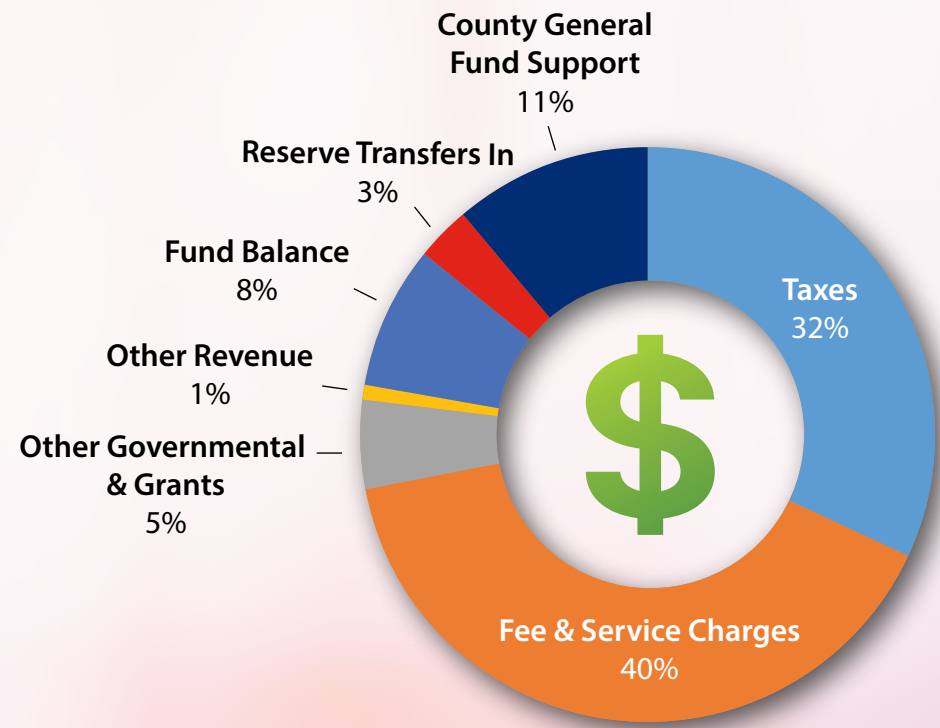
DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES	COUNTY AREAS	CITY OF FONTANA	CITY OF HESPERIA	CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO	CITY OF VICTORVILLE	TOTALS
Investigations	267	103	60	581	109	1,120
Plan Reviews	1,543	1,304	393	419	281	3,940
Planning Inspections	2,155	4,785	133	632	643	8,348
Special Events	135	73	25	42	31	306
Annual Inspections	700	351	358	843	67	2,319

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DIVISION

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATION, RESPONSE, REQUEST FOR INFORMATION, CUPA	FY 15/16	FY 16/17
Regulated Facilities	6,834	7,328
Facility Inspections	5,671	5,588
Non-Emergency Calls	316	194
Haz-Mat Team Responses	146	214
Underground Storage Tank Facilities	821	831
Underground Storage Tank Systems	2,258	2,263
Requests for Records & Certified Records Research	717	707
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & SMALL BUSINESS		
Pounds of Hazardous Waste Managed	3,424,154	3,681,178
Residents Served	53,875	56,222
Businesses Served	230	233

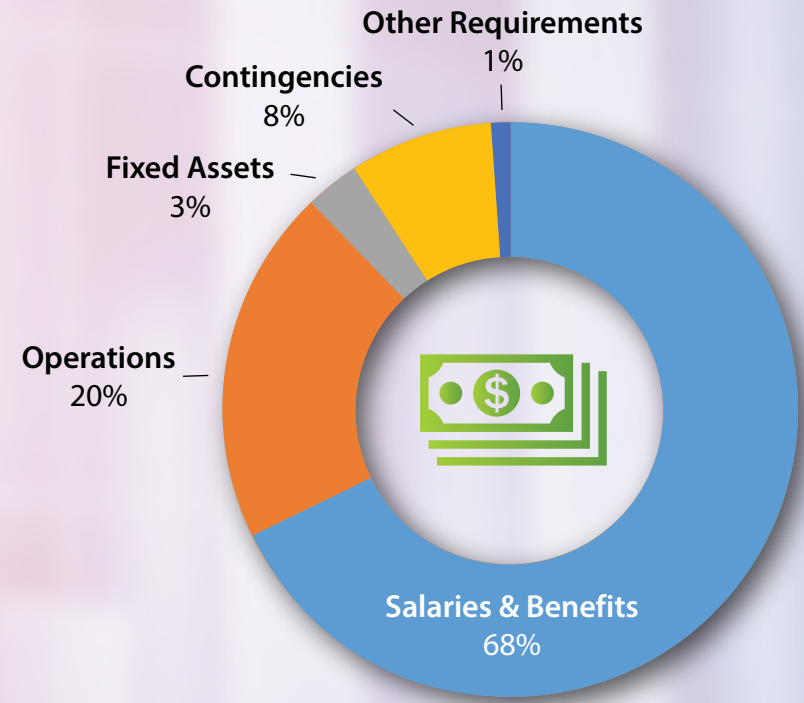
Budgeted Revenue & Expenditures

by Category Fiscal Yr 16/17



Financing Sources

County General Fund Support	\$21,315,256
Taxes	\$66,204,734
Fees & Service Charges	\$81,758,140
Other Governmental & Grants	\$10,468,271
Other Revenue	\$920,620
Fund Balance	\$17,049,218
Reserve Transfers In	\$6,921,336
TOTAL	\$204,637,575



Expenditures

Salaries & Benefits	\$138,459,178
Operations	\$41,289,795
Fixed Assets	\$6,096,333
Contingencies	\$2,409,944
Other Requirements	\$16,382,325
TOTAL	\$204,637,575

Capital Set-Asides

Capital Replacement	\$31,259,316
Termination Benefits	\$6,530,016
TOTAL	\$37,789,332

Serving *Our* Communities

SBCoFD is honored to serve our residents by being active in the communities we serve.

Duty. Honor. Community.



GRANTS

HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM

The San Bernardino County Fire – Office of Emergency Services (OES) manages the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) for the San Bernardino County Operational Area (OA). Through coordination with the Approval Authority, the grant award is allocated among local jurisdictions, law enforcement and fire agencies and other local agencies. To meet the objectives and strategies of HSGP, funding is allocated for projects in the following objectives: planning, training/exercise and equipment.

The 2016 HSGP award for the entire OA was \$2,221,582. HSGP funds must focus on countering terrorism, therefore the jurisdictions used their HSGP allocations to purchase personal protective equipment for special task force units to respond and assist in response to active shooter incidents, thermal imaging optics for identification and informal field purposes, public address systems and personnel/package screening systems. OES continues the enhancement of the San Bernardino County CERT program through CERT equipment (backpacks, hardhats and vests) and vehicles for emergency management first responders. With these grant funds, OES is continuing its development of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, a requirement of FEMA to be eligible for mitigation grant funding which supports several public works projects.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM GRANT

The 2016 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) allocation of \$561,535 allowed the emergency management of San Bernardino County to complete various training, planning and equipment projects. Utilizing 2016 EMPG, cities/towns and County departments were able to revise their Emergency Operations Plans, develop Hazard Mitigation Plans, or maintain their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs. OES used its 2016 EMPG allocation to purchase additional Responders Organized for Pass Emergencies, Field Operations Guides and to increase the number of first responders with access to these documents from 200 to 500.



URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM

The 2015 & 2016 Urban Areas Security Initiative Grant Program allocation of \$287,810 was utilized by the Office of Emergency Services to accomplish several projects, including: WebEOC, fire simulators, and the miro compound security project.

WebEOC Enterprise Solution software, aka, Enterprise. This new phase will enhance user management capabilities to permit the San Bernardino County WebEOC System Administrator the capability to create an additional ten (10) “sub-administrator accounts” with unlimited new users for specific county departments, agencies, and/or jurisdictions, and delegate the management of these accounts to an authorized “sub-administrator” representing the department, agency or jurisdiction.

Fire Simulators Burn Pan System “Laser-Driven Fire Extinguisher Training”. The fire simulator will allow fire safety education training for the Citizen Corps/CERT program within the Riverside UASI Area. The training will allow to train safely in any setting, taking the fire prevention program directly to the community on the importance of fire safety.

Miro Compound Security Project. The project will enhance and strengthen the security for the joint compound housing the County’s Emergency Operations Center, as well as Sheriff and Fire dispatch and 800 Network Operations Center. Thereby, ensuring the compound security, these facilities remain available to coordinate response and support resource request in time of incident for surrounding agencies within the UASI program.



MOVING FORWARD

FIRE STATION 32 OPENS IN NEEDLES

Community members and dignitaries gathered in Needles on October 31, 2017 to watch Fire Station 32 open its bay doors for an official ribbon cutting ceremony, welcoming San Bernardino County's newest fire station.

The state-of-the-art fire station includes an apparatus bay for housing two engines and allows room for future growth. The construction meets the current state title 24 energy standards, and the rock scape provides for California's drought concerns with no need for irrigation.

SBCoFD has administered fire protection services for the City of Needles since 1977. The new 6,300 square foot station will help firefighters continue to proudly serve the City of Needles, and the unincorporated region of the county, including Park Moabi, the Colorado River recreation area, and the I-40 and Hwy. 95 corridors.

Station 32 mans a fire engine, a brush patrol and a water tender and is staffed 24 hours a day with a professional Fire Captain, Engineer and Firefighter Paramedic; responding to over 1,100 calls for service annually.

CITIES OF SAN BERNARDINO & 29 PALMS JOIN COUNTY FIRE FAMILY

July 1, 2016, SBCoFD assumed fire, rescue, and emergency medical service responsibilities in the cities of San Bernardino and Twentynine Palms, welcoming over 100 new employees into the County Fire family.

With this change, SBCoFD staffs 10 full-time stations in the city of San Bernardino to cover the 60 square mile service area that is home to over 200,000 residents. A new squad unit is assigned within the city to respond to low-severity medical aid calls which increase resource availability and ensure quicker response to higher-level calls. New resources are directly available to the city of San Bernardino such as heavy equipment dozers and front loaders, hand crews, and a Type III incident management team.

In Twentynine Palms, SBCoFD staffs one full-time crew at fire Station 44 to cover the 88 square mile service area that responds to approximately 2,500 calls for assistance each year. SBCoFD resources will help improve response times and assist units during high call volumes in Twentynine Palms through a regionalized approach. Residents can rely on new resources available to their communities for the first time such as full-time paramedic service, hand crews, dozer operations, and a Type III incident management team.

CITY OF UPLAND TO JOIN COUNTY FIRE FAMILY

On July 22, 2017, SBCoFD will assume fire protection and emergency medical service responsibilities in the city of Upland and will welcome 44 new employees into the County Fire family from the Upland Fire Department.

The transfer of command will finalize the city's annexation into SBCoFD, estimated to save the city \$2 million annually while filling five previously vacant positions. SBCoFD will staff three city stations with three full-time personnel to cover the 15 square miles service area and its 76,000 residents.



HESPERIA & NEEDLES ANNEXATION PLANS

Annexations in the cities of Hesperia and Needles moved forward during FY 2016-17.

On November 1, 2016, Hesperia City Council members voted 5-0 in favor of a resolution that begins the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) process of transferring fire protection services to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District. SBCoFD has contracted with the city of Hesperia since June 2004, but the city has contracted on a one-year basis for the last two years since the original 10-year contract expired.

San Bernardino County Fire assumed fire protection services in Needles on August 1, 2016 when their annexation was finalized.

Annexation into the SBCoFD will provide the cities of Hesperia and Needles with a sustainable long-term solution to fire, rescue and emergency medical services while enhancing the delivery and scope of those services.



INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM REVITALIZED

Originating in 2003 following the devastating wildfires, SBCoFD introduced the implementation of its Type III Incident Management Team (IMT) to manage all-risk, large scale incidents within our county. In 2017, SBCoFD expanded and revitalized its IMT.

As large-scale incidents continue to affect our world, the IMT has continued to work alongside local law enforcement and other first responding agencies to remain vigilant in all-risk extended incidents such as flood, fire, earthquake, terrorism, etc. SBCoFD has recently incorporated additional complex training drills and exercises that require inter-agency collaboration and communication. With the ability to adapt to the specific needs of the incident, the IMT coordinates operations, logistics, planning, and support to establish a functional base for the incident as a source of centrality.

SBCoFD IMT's recent deployment to the December 2nd Inland Regional Center terrorist attack in 2015 paved the way for the advancement of IMT strategies and tactics, as we continue to develop and expand upon the services and capabilities of an incident management team.

SBCOFD PROMOTES CHAMBERLIN, PORTER, AND MEJIA

In 2016, Fire Chief Mark Hartwig announced the promotion of John Chamberlin, Tim Porter, and Dan Mejia as they accepted greater responsibility in different areas of the department.

John Chamberlin was promoted from Assistant Chief to Deputy Chief of Administration. Chamberlin oversees human resources, day-to-day fiscal operations and special projects.

Tim Porter was promoted from Division Chief to Assistant Chief, assigned to Division 11 (Training, Safety & Special Operations). This division maintains the training and certification for all of County Fire's personnel and has established new certification levels in wildland training and implements all mandated State and Federal Training.

Dan Mejia was promoted from Battalion Chief to Assistant Chief, assigned to Division 3 (High Desert). Division 3 is one of the most challenging geographic areas within San Bernardino County. It is a demanding service area for our firefighters who contend with obstacles such as Interstate 15, a logistics gateway that sees over 220,000 vehicles and 60 trains pass through every day, covering the Inyo county line to the north and continuing east to the state border of Nevada.



TOWER 8 READY FOR SERVICE

SBCoFD welcomed 38 new members to the fire family on June 23, 2017 at the Tower 8 graduation. After 16 weeks of intense training, these newly sworn firefighters are ready to face the next challenge of passing the probationary period as County firefighters.

Tower 8 began their training in March 2017 and concluded in June 2017, moving on to active duty immediately following their graduation. All of the graduates endured intense physical and mental training as they overcame fears and learned to work together as a SBCoFD team. They are now proudly serving our communities at fire stations throughout San Bernardino County.



FIRE CORPS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM LAUNCHES!

After much planning and preparation, SBCoFD launched its newest volunteer program, Fire Corps. The newly created Fire Corps – Emergency Services Support (ESS) provides opportunities for interested and qualified citizens to volunteer locally in their community and throughout those areas of the County serviced by County Fire. ESS volunteers will assist suppression personnel in day-to-day non-emergency functions. These may include: clerical support, public outreach, video/photography, publication creation/design, transport assignments and logistical support.

Specialized ESS volunteers may also provide Emergency Operations Center (EOC) support, on-scene incident support, pre-shelter reception, Red Flag and Ice patrols as well as staffing and operating the Seismic Simulator. Familiar volunteer programs like the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Emergency Communications Service (ECS) and Disaster Corps are all included under the Fire Corps “umbrella.” These programs, which are also administered by the Office of Emergency Services, will see an increase in standardization and cooperation among all Fire Corps programs.

THOUSANDS OF POUNDS IN FIREWORKS CONFISCATED

Over 33,000 pounds of dangerous and illegal fireworks were confiscated through weeks of interdiction operations in June and July of 2017 conducted by a multi-agency task force led by SBCoFD Investigations Unit. Investigators issued 146 citations totaling \$182,500 in fines for possession of illegal fireworks.

The multi-agency task force also teamed up with San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Arson/Bomb Squad to utilize K9s trained to sniff out explosives. Once seized, the illegal fireworks are picked up by the State Fire Marshal’s office and are safely destroyed.



SAVING LIVES THROUGH TABLET TECHNOLOGY

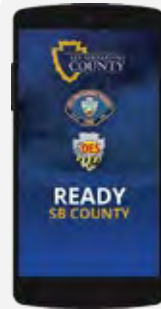
Over the past year, Apple iPads functioning as Mobile Data Computers (MDC), have been placed in fire engines and various pieces of apparatus throughout SBCoFD.

Tablets allow for real time incident notifications, mapping, and resource tracking. One of the major applications featured on these iPads is ‘Tablet Command.’ This application is a tablet-based incident command application that allows incident commanders to tap-and-drag emergency units onto an incident map, track their progress, and time-stamp every maneuver and benchmark throughout an emergency response. Such features improve crew safety by maintaining real time accountability throughout an incident and allowing vastly more accurate after-action reviews. Once the incident is complete, a digital command worksheet can be saved for future reference.

The iPad greatly enhances situational awareness and our ability to make decisions based on real time information without needing to rely on grease pencils and plastic writing surfaces to coordinate and track resources. Tablet Command takes away the “pen and paper” and places our incident organization into current technology.

These advancements in technology have greatly improved the way County Fire operates and has allowed us to deliver a safer, more efficient service to the public at a fraction of the cost of traditional laptop computers that were previously used.

OES LAUNCHES READY SB PREPAREDNESS APP



San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services (OES) has developed a mobile app called Ready SB that helps citizens properly prepare and stay informed during and after a disaster. Users are able to create a family emergency plan and get a list of go-kit supplies in just under a minute. In addition, users receive the latest updates and necessary information on evacuation routes, shelters, available emergency services and much more, should a disaster strike.

Key features include: instant access to evacuation maps to know which routes are safe; latest alerts and emergency notifications from San Bernardino County OES; quick reference guides for wildfire, floods, earthquakes and terrorism; broadcast your status (“I am safe” or “I need help”) with one single tap.

Currently more than 11,000 users have downloaded the Ready SB County App. The App is free and is available on the App Store or Google Play today!



FIRSTWATCH: A VALUABLE TOOL

In 2017, SBCoFD acquired a new data collection program that provides more accurate and precise statistics – FirstWatch; turning raw data into meaningful information.

The FirstWatch interface offers a wide variety of valuable information to improve operational performance and benchmarks. The program allows near real time access to information and statistics regarding turnout time, response time, and time spent on scene in order to efficiently increase response times department-wide.

Users are able to narrow down information even further with geo-fencing capabilities, creating borders based on specific regions, communities, and areas. SBCoFD personnel can utilize data filters called “triggers” to help monitor the department’s performance against defined operational objectives, as well as provide early warnings and automated alerts for incidents such as bomb threats, hazardous material incidents, structural fires, multi-casualty incidents and more.

The implementation of FirstWatch has enabled County Fire the ability to interpret relevant data for stronger decision-making in order to provide Premier Fire Services.

FIREFIGHTERS OUTFITTED WITH KEVLAR VESTS

In 2016, SBCoFD firefighters added a new piece of equipment to their uniform, tactical bullet proof Kevlar vests for situations with escalating threats and active shooters.

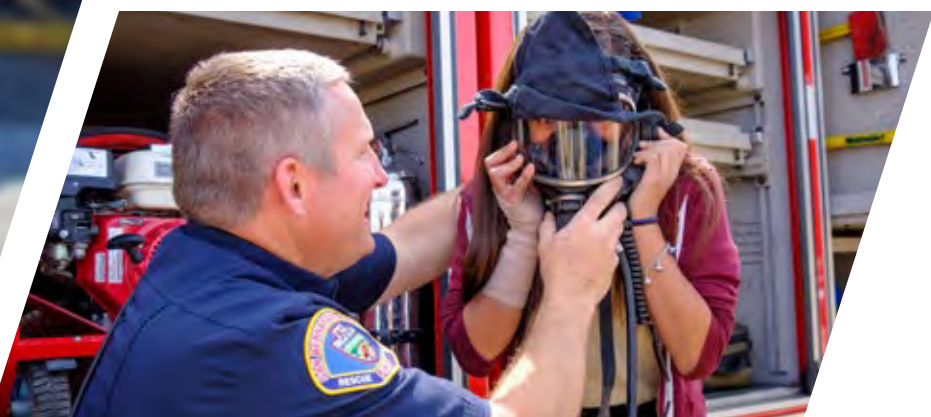
County Fire began pursuing an Escalated Threat policy in 2010 and obtained grant funding in 2015 from the Department of Homeland Security for the funding of the first round of ballistics gear. An additional grant was secured along with funds from the county to complete the outfitting of all SBCoFD suppression personnel, with plans to also include Ambulance Operators.

The tactical gear is made of a military grade ceramic chest and back plate carrier, designed to provide protection against high-caliber rounds of bullets. Training has been developed as part of an operations directive and hands-on course, where firefighters are trained on tactical combat care, movements and how to use the gear in collaboration with law enforcement, as Firefighters are now prepared to follow armed law enforcement personnel into situations that require immediate medical attention to victims.



BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

On April 27, 2017, children of SBCoFD staff were able to attend work with their parents and learn more about what our fire family does on a daily basis. The kids learned about the variety of equipment used by fire personnel, reviewed safety measures with the Office of the Fire Marshal, practiced house fire evacuations, and had a Q&A with Fire Chief Mark Hartwig.



KENDALL FIRE BURNS LITTLE MOUNTAIN

July 2, 2016, just as the city of San Bernardino's transition to SBCoFD commenced, there were multiple reports of a brush fire in the area of Kendall Drive near Little Mountain in San Bernardino.

Medic Engine 227 was first on scene, reporting a half-acre brush fire in light-to-medium brush traveling up slope with a rapid rate of spread. It was immediately threatening multiple structures at the top of the hill. ME227 requested more units to their location for further assistance to fight the blaze when they noticed that homes were threatened. By the time the fire was under control a total of three alarms had been dispatched, including Old Cajon Crew 6-1.

The initial priorities of crews were to establish structure defense at the top of the hill to defend as many homes as possible. As the defense operation began there were evacuations performed to get every person that was in immediate danger to safety as quickly as possible. Unfortunately four homes were lost in the fire and one sustained significant damage. All the other homes in the area were saved due to the quick work by firefighters on scene.

VEGETATION IGNITES MOTEL FIRE

On the evening of July 21, 2016, SBCoFD units responded to numerous reports of a vegetation fire behind the DoubleTree Hotel on Hospitality Lane in San Bernardino. The fire originated in the vegetation alongside the Interstate 10 freeway. Blowing embers quickly spread igniting nearby palm trees and extending into parked vehicles and two structures of the Super 8 Motel. Firefighters evacuated occupants of the 79-room Super 8 Motel, attacked the structure fire, and combatted the vegetation fire that was threatening the DoubleTree Hotel.

The fire was controlled after 90 minutes with damage to approximately 40 percent of both Super 8 Motel structures. In total, 32 rooms at the Super 8 Motel were damaged and two vehicles were lost.

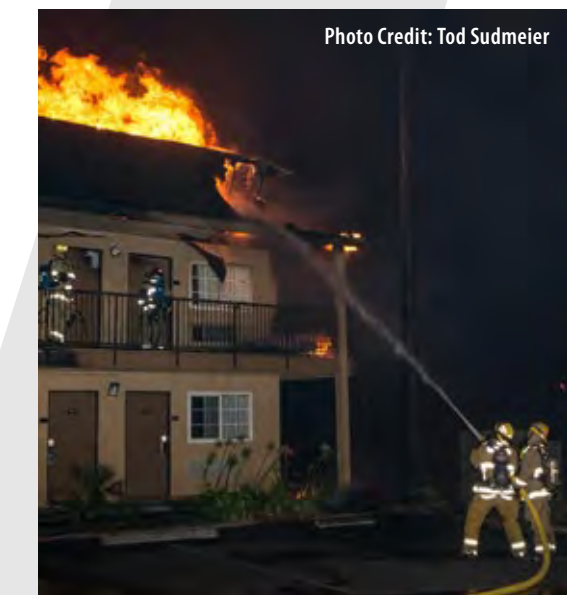


Photo Credit: Tod Sudmeier

PILOT FIRE PROMPTS EVACUATIONS IN DESERT & MOUNTAINS

On August 7, 2016, SBCoFD units responded to a vegetation fire near Silverwood Lake in Hesperia at about 12:10 p.m. Winds drove the fire into more chaparral and brush between Pilot Rock Ridge and State Highway 173, threatening thousands of structures and prompting evacuation orders for nearly 4,700 homes in the mountains and 500 homes in Hesperia.

Multiple SBCoFD crews responded for ground and air attack including engines, water tenders, dozers, Gel Task Force and Air Rescue. A total of 486 personnel were assigned to the incident. Difficult terrain, extreme heat and wind hindered firefighters' efforts. The fire was declared 100% contained on Aug. 16, burning 8,110 acres with no loss of structures and one reported minor firefighter injury.



BLUE CUT FIRE FORCES WIDESPREAD EVACUATIONS

The morning of August 16, 2016, just as crews were wrapping up the Pilot Fire, a report of a vegetation fire in the Cajon Pass west of Interstate 15 sent SBCoFD crews responding to yet another wildland fire. With heavy fuels and red flag warning in full effect, the fire quickly grew from 5 acres to 300 acres in less than an hour, which soon led to the shutdown of the I-15 freeway in both directions.

At the peak of the blaze, there were 2,684 personnel actively working to contain the blaze with personnel from all over the nation assisting. SoCal Incident Management Team 4 managed the incident in unified command with the U.S. Forest Service, San Bernardino County Fire Department, CAL FIRE, California Highway Patrol, and San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

Mandatory and voluntary evacuation orders were given to the nearby communities of West Cajon Valley, Lytle Creek, Lone Pine Canyon, Swarthout Canyon, Oak Hills, Phelan, Summit Valley, and the entire community of Wrightwood with over 82,000 residents affected.

Six SBCoFD firefighters became entrapped by wildfire on Aug. 16 while defending homes and conducting evacuations in the Swarthout Canyon area. Firefighters were able to shelter in place within a nearby structure, but two firefighters sustained minor injuries. Both firefighters were transported to a local hospital where they were treated and released back to the fire line to defend structures.

Two SBCoFD dozers played a key role in protecting the Wrightwood community from the roaring blaze. Dozer crews led by Captain Shane Glaze, created a 50-foot containment line between Lone Pine Canyon Road and Highway 2 in order to stop the westerly spread of the fire.

After a week of battling the blaze, full containment was reached on Aug. 23, with a total of 36,274 acres burned. SBCoFD's Damage Assessment Team estimated 105 single family residences and 216 outbuildings were destroyed by the fire; three single family residences and five other structures were damaged.



2017 WILDFIRES CONTINUE TO IMPACT COUNTY

SBCoFD personnel battled a string of wildfires in June 2017 in hot, dry conditions, including the Holcomb Fire northeast of Big Bear City. The fire began on June 19, burning 1,503 acres with road closures and mandatory evacuations to threatened areas. Firefighters then battled the Mart Fire north of Highland on June 27, which covered 670 acres; causing major road closures and mandatory evacuations.



WINTER STORM WREAKS HAVOC IN CAJON PASS, HIGH DESERT

One of the biggest storms in years wreaked havoc mid-February of 2017, triggering a number of emergency incidents in the region and resulting in multiple vehicle-related fatalities. SBCoFD crews were met with flooded roadways requiring a series of swift-water rescues, several traffic accidents, a hazardous materials spill, downed power lines and trees, and the erosion and eventual collapse of a 200-foot section of Interstate 15 that toppled a fire engine over the side of the freeway; no SBCoFD personnel were injured during the events.

SBCoFD responded to eleven separate swift-water rescue calls during the peak of the storm and rescued a total of 30 people, a majority of which were in the High Desert. Landslides in Forest Falls also called for fire personnel response, as well as other areas throughout the County who experienced excessive debris flow as a result of the 2016 fire season. The storm brought up to six inches of rain in the mountains and up to two feet of snow at higher elevations making travel extremely difficult.

NORTH PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING

On the morning of April 10, 2017, SBCoFD along with San Bernardino City Police and San Bernardino County Sheriff responded to the scene at North Park Elementary in San Bernardino, where an active shooter had entered the campus and opened fire in a special education classroom.

Donned with body armor, SBCoFD first responders quickly arrived to provide medical services and accompany law enforcement officials into the scene to assess the situation and injuries. Due to a domestic dispute with his estranged wife, the shooter tragically killed his intended target, as well as one child and injuring another. After firing several shots in the classroom, the shooter turned the gun on himself. SBCoFD first responders attended to the victims and assisted in managing this isolated incident.



Photo Credit: jgkix



Photo Credit: VVNG



Photo Credit: Casper News



Photo Credit: James Quigg, Daily Press





RESPONDING TO OUT OF AREA CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE

LA County's Sand Fire

With a very active fire season across the entire state of California during 2016, SBCoFD sent Old Cajon Hand Crew 6-1 along with overhead personnel as part of SoCal Interagency Incident Management Team 3 to assist with the Sand Fire in Los Angeles County in July.

Old Cajon Crew 6-1 created fire lines within the Angeles National Forest as the Sand Fire blazed over 40,000 acres and destroyed 18 homes, taking the life of one man and forcing the evacuation of approximately 20,000 people. SBCoFD units remained assigned to the fire for 13 days.

Historical Soberanes Fire

SBCoFD was on hand to assist in fighting the most expensive wildfire in U.S. history in 2016, the Soberanes Fire. Igniting July 22, the stubborn Santa Barbara County fire burned for over 3 months, costing \$236 million and scorching over 200 square miles.

The fire was started by an illegal campfire that was abandoned a few miles east of Highway 1 north of Soberanes Creek Trail. Of the 2,000 structures that were threatened by the fire, 68 of those structures were destroyed (57 residential structures and 11 outbuildings).

County Fire Responds Out of Region

As a national resource, SBCoFD SoCal Interagency Incident Management Team 3 was requested out of state in October 2016, where 30 large fires were active across seven states in the southern region of the United States. This type of fire activity in the southern region was abnormal for the time of year and resources were limited as many seasonal firefighters had already been laid off for the season.

As part of the team, SBCoFD Deputy Chief John Chamberlin, Assistant Chief Tom Marshall, Battalion Chief Bob Evans and Captain Rod Mascis were assigned to the Rough Ridge Fire in Chatsworth, Georgia for two weeks after traveling throughout the area providing assistance where needed. The fire had been burning for about a month prior to the team's arrival and ultimately scorched over 27,800 acres. The team experienced a new type of fuel management while on the assignment called "leaf litter", which entails using leaf blowers on the fire line to create clearance.

Out-of-region costs are 100% reimbursed, including administrative costs for being deployed nationally. This type of response allows personnel an opportunity to master mutual aid on a national level, enhance career development and assist other agencies in firefighting efforts.

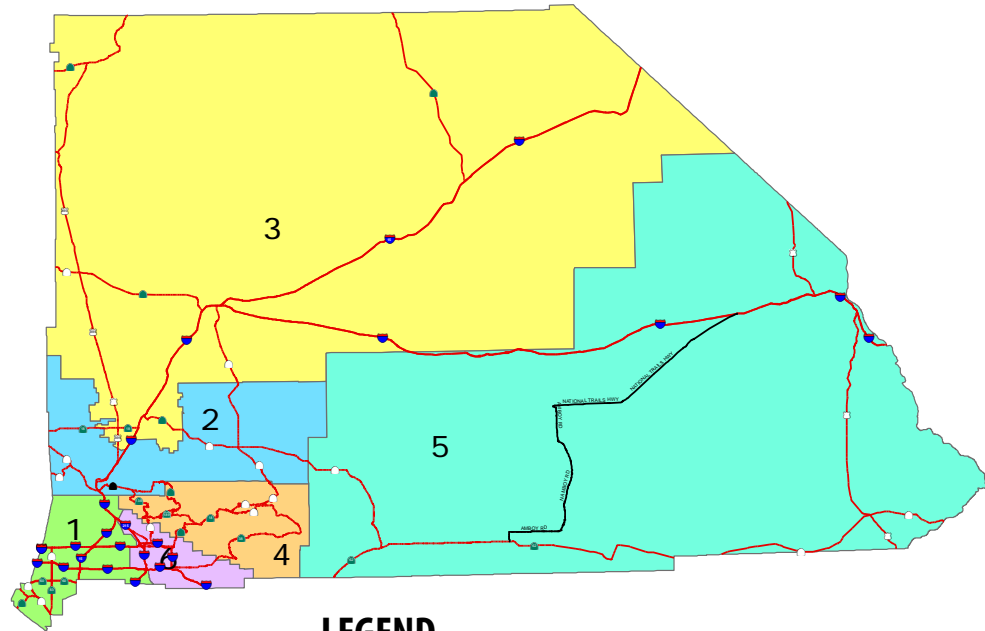


Spark of LOVE

SBCoFD is proud to partner with local communities and ABC 7 every year to have the opportunity to give back to kids in our County with the Spark of Love Toy Drive. Hundreds of kids were given a brighter holiday season with the help of our generous residents.



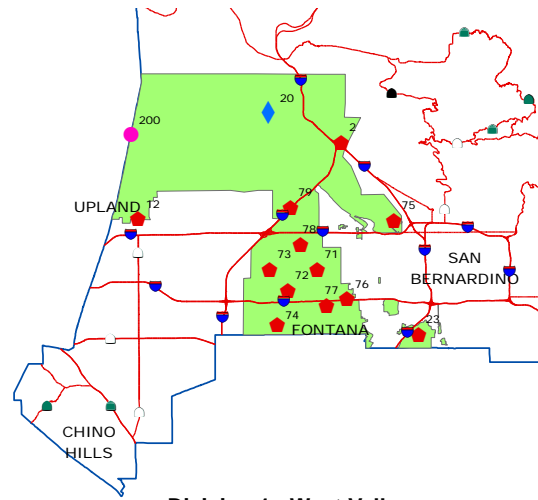
Station Maps



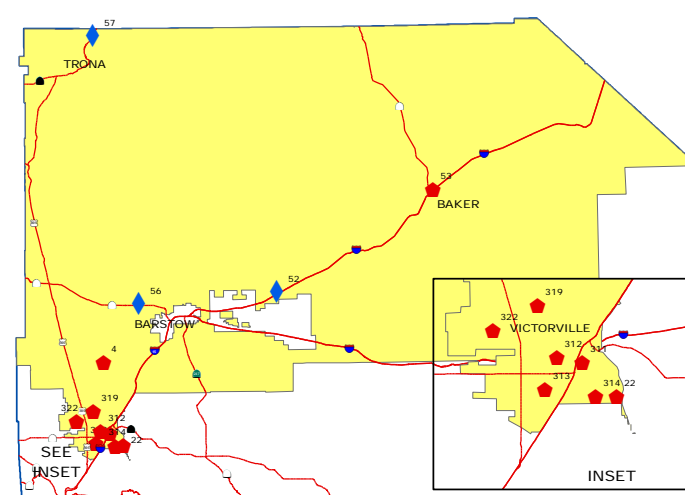
LEGEND

- | | |
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|  Division 1 |  SBC Fire Station |
|  Division 2 |  Paid Call Station |
|  Division 3 |  Contract Station |
|  Division 4 |  Volunteer Station |
|  Division 5 | |
|  Division 6 | |

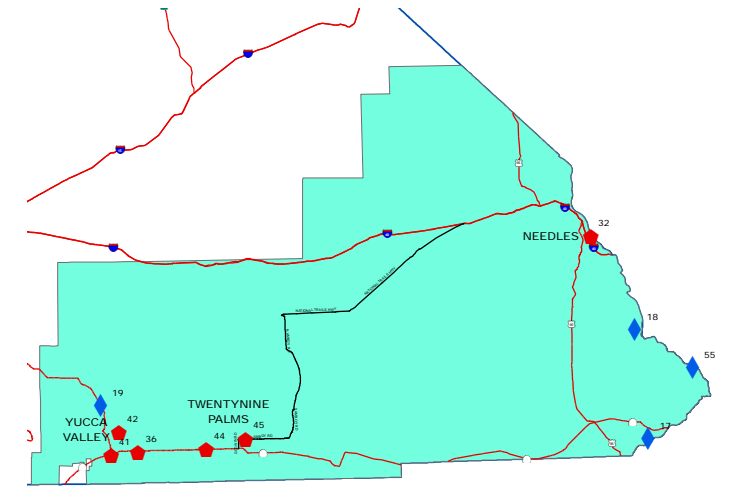
Division 1 - West Valley



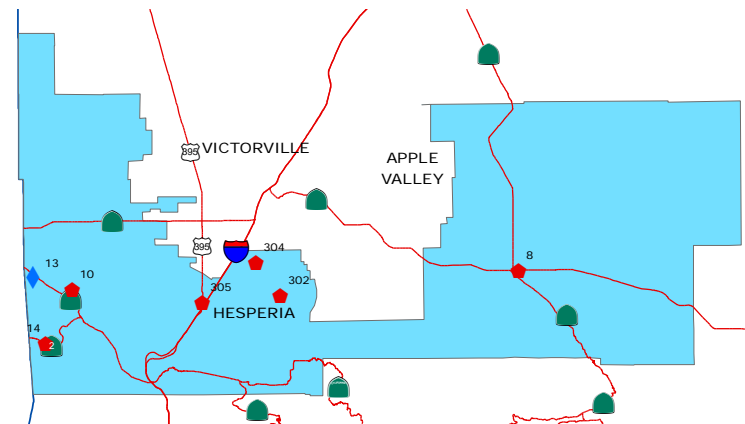
Division 3 - North Desert



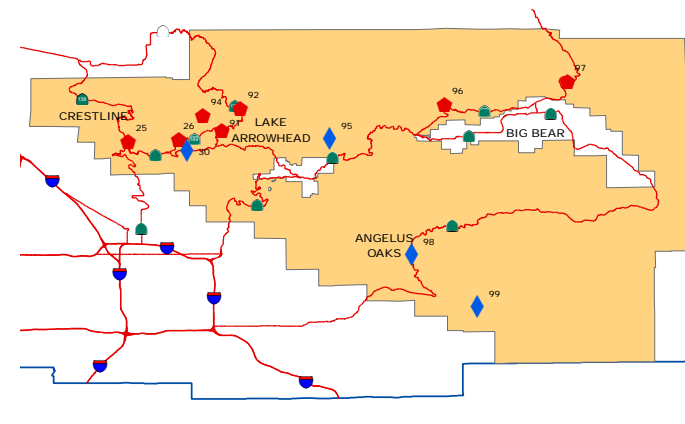
Division 5 - South Desert



Division 2 - High Desert



Division 4 - Mountain



Division 6 - East Valley

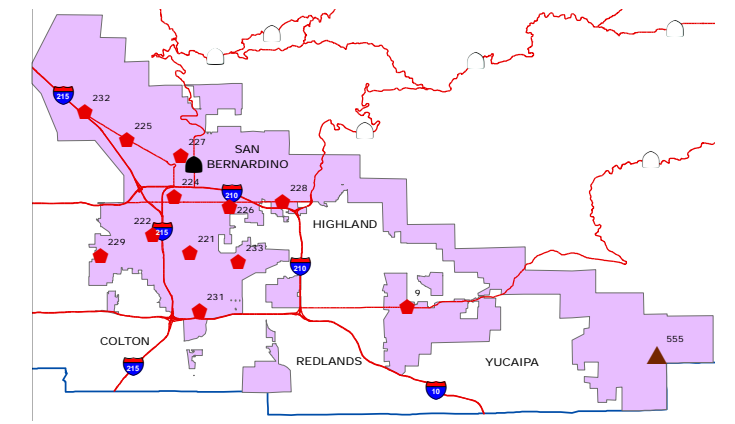




Photo Credit: Doug Saunders



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2016 – 2017

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