



NEWS



News Headlines 01/04/2023

- Engineer Nathan Oden receives Exceptional Service Award for his actions which 'saved several lives' during incident in Fontana last year
- Multiple areas under threat as 'bomb cyclone' heads toward Southern California

Engineer Nathan Oden receives Exceptional Service Award for his actions which 'saved several lives' during incident in Fontana last year

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

January 3, 2023



Engineer Nathan Oden recently received the Exceptional Service Award for 2022 from the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department

An extremely dangerous incident took place in Fontana in the early morning hours of June 3, 2022.

A fire engine that was responding to a traffic collision on the Interstate 10 Freeway was struck from behind by a semi-truck, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

But despite the chaos at the scene, no persons were hospitalized with injuries, thanks in part to the quick thinking of Engineer Nathan Oden, who recently received the Exceptional Service Award for 2022 from the Fire Department.

“Nathan's awareness for the emergency crews and civilians on scene ultimately saved several lives,” the Fire Department said in a news release.

The incident took place on westbound I-10, just east of Sierra Avenue, when firefighters in Medic Engine 76 (ME76) from the Bloomington station were working to safely block the scene of an earlier collision.

At that point, a big rig suddenly smashed into ME76 from behind at 2:34 a.m.

“Thankfully, all SBCoFD personnel were outside of the apparatus when it was struck and were not injured by the secondary collision,” said Battalion Chief Mike McClintock.

Firefighter-paramedics assessed the situation for injuries and provided immediate care to two occupants of the large vehicle. Both people inside the truck had minor injuries and declined transport.

“The apparatus was successful in shielding the original scene and no first responders or members of the public were injured by the secondary collision,” McClintock said.

However, ME76 sustained significant damage, and crews from Station 76 had to begin using a reserve apparatus in order to continue to provide service to Bloomington and the surrounding area.

The California Highway Patrol was investigating the cause of both collisions.

Assistant Chief Jeff Birchfield said he was thankful that no firefighters, emergency responders, and others at the scene were not hurt.

“We are fortunate that this incident had a positive outcome, but it’s a great reminder to stay alert while driving and be cautious around incidents on the freeway,” said Birchfield, who oversees operations in Division 1, including Fontana.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/engineer-nathan-oden-receives-exceptional-service-award-for-his-actions-which-saved-several-lives-during/article_13b71ed2-8bbf-11ed-a19d-5bc7cfedb8be.html

Multiple areas under threat as ‘bomb cyclone’ heads toward Southern California

Cameron Kiszla, KTLA

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A strong storm known as a bomb cyclone is nearing the Southern California coast on Jan. 4, 2023.

With a “bomb cyclone” about to dump inches of rain on Southern California, officials are warning residents that some areas are especially susceptible to floods and debris flows.

About 2 to 4 inches of rain is expected in most areas, with totals ranging between 4 and 8 inches in the mountain and hill areas, according to the National Weather Service.

The L.A. County Department of Public Works issued evacuation warnings that go into effect Wednesday afternoon and run through Friday morning for areas near the burn scars from the Lake and Bobcat fires.

The NWS reiterated that those near the Lake Fire burn scar should remain vigilant, along with those near the site of the Fish Fire, as there are likely to be debris flows in those areas.

Because the storm could dump as much as 1 inch per hour of rain on the area, weather officials also expect that small streams and urban roads could flood, so drivers should be careful when traveling.

Along with the rain, snow is expected to fall in abundance in areas above 6,500 feet in elevation.

Winter storm warnings have been issued for mountain areas in Ventura, Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, where up to 8 inches of snow could fall at higher elevations.

Coastal areas, including those in Ventura County, are also expected to see high surf and dangerous rip currents.

While the most intense parts of the bomb cyclone are expected to hit Wednesday night and into Thursday, rain will continue off and on into next week.

<https://ktla.com/news/local-news/multiple-areas-under-threat-as-bomb-cyclone-heads-toward-southern-california/>