Over 170 LAFD Firefighters worked for more than five hours to extinguish a Major Emergency Fire in Downtown Los Angeles that impacted several commercial buildings along Kohler Street.

Photo courtesy of the LAFD

UNITED FIREFIGHTERS OF LOS ANGELES CITY

International Association of Fire Fighters Local 112

Stay Connected

July 26, 2024

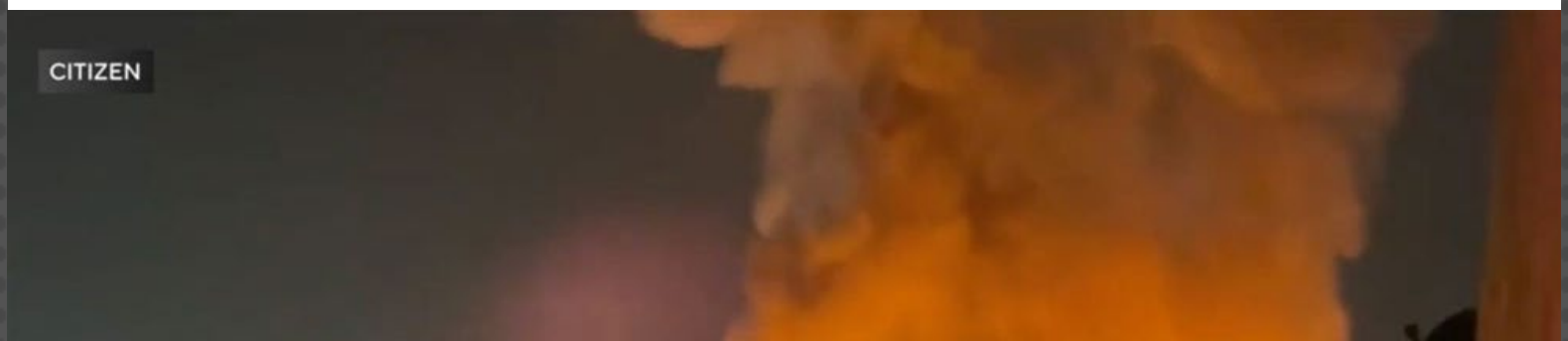
Here's the latest news impacting Los Angeles Firefighters…

Feature

1 dead after boarded-up house goes up in flames in Boyle Heights

A person died in a house fire in L.A.Õs Boyle Heights neighborhood early Wednesday, the Los Angeles Fire Department confirmed. An LAFD alert indicates the fire was first reported at 1:18 a.m. at a home located at 121 North Mathews Street. ÒFirefighters found a boarded-up one-story single-family residential structure with heavy smoke showing,Ó LAFD officials said. ÒCrews quickly made access and deployed hose lines inside the building.Ó 34 firefighters took a total of 24 minutes to fully extinguish the blaze. Upon eliminating the fire, crews performed a search of the interior and found one person dead.

KTLA5



Trash fire downtown Los Angeles spreads to 5 commercial buildings

A Los Angeles Fire Department firefighter was injured battling a massive fire downtown Los Angeles that spread to multiple nearby buildings before crews got it under control Friday morning. A total of five buildings were damaged by the blaze and two were completely destroyed, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. The fire began at an outside storage area at 683 S. Kohler St. near Seventh Street and burned for over 5 hours, spreading to multiple other buildings on that block. Fire crews responded around 2:07 a.m. and began battling the flames with both defensive and offensive tactics, said LAFD. The fire spread to a group of buildings at 747 S. Kohler St. It took over 170 firefighters to put out the blaze in around 5 hours.

CBSLA/LAFD

Part of vacant Panorama City commercial building collapses after large fire

It took more than 100 firefighters to contain a large fire that broke out at a vacant commercial building in Panorama City on Saturday. The fire was first reported a 10,000-square-foot building a little before 2:40 p.m. at 14651 W. Roscoe Boulevard, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. Firefighters say that the building, which had been the site of other fires in the past, suffered a partial collapse due to the flames.

CBSLA

Children, Hot Weather & Cars = Danger!

With an average of 37 child deaths each year in the United States caused by children being left alone in a hot vehicle, the Los Angeles Fire Department is asking for your help right now: We need to make sure no child dies as the result of being left alone in a hot vehicle!

LAFD

2023 LAFD Year In Review by United Firefighters of Los Angeles City

UFLAC is proud to present the 11th Annual Los Angeles Fire Department Year in Review. Our mission is to lead the way to protect and advocate for the health, safety, working conditions, wages and benefits of our members and their families. This publication tells the story of our Firefighters and Paramedics in images taken throughout 2023 when LAFD Crews responded to a record number of more than 509,000 emergency calls for service. As an all-risk fire and rescue agency that serves more than four million people, the LAFD is one of the busiest and most understaffed urban fire departments in the entire country, averaging more than 1,350 calls per day. We are honored to help showcase the dedication and commitment demonstrated by the men and women of the LAFD.

UFLAC

Fire Watch

Crews get upper hand on fast-moving brush fire burning along eastbound 210 Freeway in Sunland

A fast-moving brush fire erupted Friday afternoon along the 210 Freeway in Sunland, prompting a shutdown of multiple eastbound lanes. Firefighters responded to the blaze burning next to the freeway near La Tuna Canyon Road around 4:12 p.m., according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. Two lanes were shut down. Crews managed to get the upper hand Friday night and stopped the fire at 43 acres, while containment increased to 40%, fire officials said.

ABC7

Photo courtesy of OnScene.TV

Construction work may be to blame for fires at two L.A. schools in the same night

Construction work may be to blame for fires that erupted at two different schools in Sherman Oaks and North Hollywood about three miles apart Thursday night, according to authorities. Firefighters arrived at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks at 9:29 p.m. to discover flames and smoke coming from the roof of St. Andre Bessette Hall, where crews had been working earlier that day. About 38 firefighters extinguished the flames by 9:49 p.m. ÒEarlier in the day, they had roof work being done, and some roofing materials, like tar, needs to be heated up to make things stick,Ó Los Angeles Fire Department spokesperson Lyndsey Lantz said.

LA Times

Photo by Mike Meadows

134 Firefighters Battle Fierce Blaze at Abandoned Koreatown Restaurant, No Injuries Reported

Early this morning, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) crews faced off against a fierce blaze in Koreatown. The fire ignited inside an abandoned restaurant located at 3455 W 8th St. The LAFD responded after receiving the call and immediately took to the streets to manage the emergency. According to a statement obtained by the LAFD, the firefighters arrived on the scene at 08:23 AM to find the *one-story* building "heavily involved with fire." The situation demanded a defensive approach after the initial assessment. Crews initially entered the interior and ascended to the rooftop, but growing concerns for the structural integrity soon forced a change in tactics.

Hoodline

100 Firefighters Battle Blaze in West Los Angeles

Battling an intense and rapidly growing fire at a one-story commercial building in West Los Angeles Wednesday, Los Angeles Fire Department crews were able to contain and extinguish the raging flames. Firefighters responded at 12:30 a.m. to 2100 South Bundy Drive near Mississippi Avenue, where they immediately went into defensive mode and due to the intense heat from the fire, fought the blaze from the buildingÕs exterior, said LAFD spokesman Nicholas Prange. It took 100 firefighters 81 minutes to put the fire out.

MyNewsLA

Vacant home goes up in flames in North Hollywood

Firefighters extinguished a blaze that ripped through a vacant home in North Hollywood Friday afternoon. The fire was first reported around 12:15 p.m. at a one-story, single family home located at 6401 N. Camellia Ave. First crews on scene found a fire outside the property that had spread to the adjacent home and began burning through the houseÕs attic. A nearby home was in the path of the flames, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department, and crews worked to protect it from the encroaching fire. After about 25 minutes, all Òactive flamesÓ were put out by fire crews.

KTLA5

Large Brush Fire at RC Field at the Sepulveda Basin

LAFD responded to the intersection of Woodley and Burbank at the RC airfield to find a large brushfire. Firefighters arrived in time to stop the fire from spreading into the thicker brush. The fire was held at 3 acres and is now out. start of the fire is unknown at this time.

Royol News

Firefighters Rapidly Extinguish Blaze at Tarzana Jewelry Store, Preventing Spread to Adjacent Units

Firefighters responded to a structure fire early this morning at a jewelry store located at 19001 W Ventura Bl in Tarzana. According to the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), the blaze was reported at 07:47 AM and involved a one-story commercial building with a fire in the attic. The LAFD entered offensive mode to combat the fire which, spread to the attic of the store. A total of 75 firefighters were dispatched to the scene. In a rapid response, the fire department managed to get the situation under control quickly, preventing the fire from extending horizontally to adjacent units within the same strip mall, the intensity of such swift action mitigated what could have been more extensive damage to the surrounding property.

Hoodline

LAFD Extinguishes Hollywood Apartment Fire in 41 Minutes, Two Treated for Smoke Inhalation

The Los Angeles Fire Department crews responded to a structure fire in Hollywood that had engulfed part of a three-story apartment building. The fire, reported at 11:22 PM at 7230 W Franklin Avenue, was successfully extinguished by LAFD within 41 minutes of their arrival. According to official reports, the blaze affected four units in the building. There were 56 firefighters at the scene who worked in tandem to curb the spread of the flames. Coordination efforts included an interior fire attack, coupled with roof ventilation, which proved effective in controlling the situation. As the fire was doused, two individuals received treatment for smoke inhalation, although there were no reports of life-threatening injuries.

Hoodline

Los Angeles Firefighters Successfully Extinguish Blaze at Vacant Harvard Heights Home

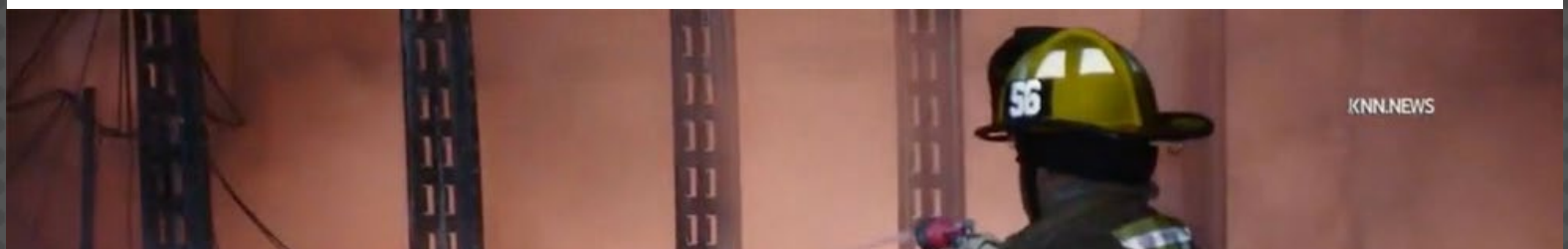
A three-story vacant home in the Harvard Heights neighborhood became the scene of a fire on Tuesday afternoon with flames visible upon the arrival of the Los Angeles Fire Department. According to a statement from the LAFD, the incident occurred at 1422 S St Andrews Pl at approximately 6:47 PM. Fire crews took an offensive stance against, the blaze which emanated from a craftsman-style house that appeared to be vacant. The LAFD dispatched numerous resources including ladder trucks and hose lines to tackle the fire. As detailed in a follow-up notification by the department, it took 55 firefighters about 36 minutes to control and ultimately extinguish the fire.

Hoodline

Firefighters Extinguish Fire at Vacant Home in East Hollywood

A fire that threatened nearby buildings at a vacant one-story residence was contained and extinguished Thursday by Los Angeles Fire Department firefighters. Fire crews were called to 618 N. Juanita Ave. at 4:32 a.m. between Clinton Street and Melrose Avenue where they fought the flames with an exterior attack, said LAFD spokesman Nicholas Prange. They were able to prevent other buildings from being burned and it took 46 firefighters 41 minutes to extinguish the flames.

MyNewsLA



Fire breaks out near Griffith Park & Southern Railroad

A fire broke out near one of Griffith ParkÕs iconic train stations early Friday morning. The blaze was reported off Los Feliz Boulevard and Crystal Springs Drive just after 2:15 a.m. Video from the scene showed large flames coming from a shed in the Griffith Park & Southern Railroad maintenance yard. Officials said the building is used to store equipment and fire officials said the shed and everything inside was a total loss. Fire crews kept the fire contained in the maintenance yard and were able to prevent the fire from affecting the train or the tracks.

Fox11

Firefighters Put Out 2 Acre Brush Fire Near Sepulveda Basin

Approximately 2 acres of burning brush were extinguished by Los Angeles Fire Department personnel in Van Nuys, authorities said Saturday. Fire crews were called at 11:16 p.m. Friday to the 5600 block of North Woodley Avenue near the Sepulveda Basin where they encountered two separate small fires. Firefighters were able to merge them and put the flames out, said LAFD spokeswoman Lyndsey Lantz. No injuries were reported and several fire companies will remain at the scene to address hot spots and ensure no further threat remains, Lantz said.

MyNewsLA

LAFD Quickly Contains Early Morning Brush Fire in Griffith Park, No Injuries Reported

Early this morning, a brush fire sparked in Griffith Park, prompting an immediate response from the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). According to the LAFD's alert, the blaze began around 02:28 AM at 5600 W Zoo Drive. A team of firefighters was dispatched to the scene to combat the quarter-acre fire, which was rapidly climbing uphill through dense vegetation. Within just over an hour, the LAFD successfully contained the fire which had expanded to approximately 2 acres. Running in the steep terrain, crews are expected to remain on-site, as they work towards cooling any remaining hot spots. "Forward progress on the fire in Griffith Park has been stopped," an LAFD statement read, as firefighters reinforce containment lines by clearing surrounding brush down to the mineral soil.

Hoodline

Firefighters Quickly Put out Hansen Dam Brush Fire

Crews from the Los Angeles Fire Department and Los Angeles County Fire Department Saturday held a brush fire at Hansen Dam in Lake View Terrace to about one-half acre. Smoke was reported at 5:13 p.m. Saturday in the area of 11451 W. Foothill Blvd., according to LAFD spokeswoman Lyndsey Lantz. Firefighters found medium to heavy brush on fire, Lantz said. ÒFirefighters worked quickly to surround the burning area with hose lines and extinguish the flames,Ó she said. ÒSeveral fire companies will remain at the scene to address hotspots and ensure there is no threat of further spread.Ó

MyNewsLA

Brush Fire Breaks Out in Pacific Palisades

Firefighters extinguished a small brush fire in Pacific Palisades Thursday afternoon, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. Firefighters responded to the 1000 block of Palisades Drive at around 4:30 p.m. to find one-eighth of an acre of brush burning amid 10 mph onshore winds. "Crews quickly surrounded the fire with hose lines and extinguished the flames by ground attack," the LAFD said.

Pacific Palisades Patch

LAFD Extinguishes Sun Valley House Fire in 32 Minutes, No Hospitalizations Required

A fire that engulfed a two-story residence in Sun Valley was successfully extinguished by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) on Monday afternoon. According to the LAFD alert, the incident, designated as INC#0933, was reported at 1:42 PM at 9120 N Omelveny Avenue. Firefighters arrived to find heavy flames showing from the building and threatening to spread to neighboring structures. Efforts to contain the blaze were intense, with the LAFD deploying a total of 38 firefighters to the scene.

Hoodline

Fire Doused in Commercial Building in Florence Area of LA

A fire at a storage yard that extended to a single-story commercial building in the Florence area was quickly knocked down Wednesday with no reported injuries. The fire was reported at about 12:40 p.m. in the 800 block of East 73rd Street, according to Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman Nicholas Prange. It took 49 firefighters working in defensive mode to contain the flames to the structure of origin. ÒThe intense heat caused flames to penetrate the adjacent (vacant) commercial building, where firefighters made interior access and fought back the encroaching flames from inside,Ó Prange said.

MyNewsLA

LA Firefighters Extinguish Lincoln Heights Blaze in Under 20 Minutes, No Injuries Reported

Early this morning, Los Angeles firefighters tackled a blaze in a one-story commercial building in Lincoln Heights, managing to extinguish the flames within a mere 18 minutes. The Los Angeles Fire Department reported that upon arrival at 2819 N Broadway, they encountered smoke pouring from various openings of the structure, indicating an active fire inside the vacant building. Crews swiftly initiated an aggressive attack, ventilating the building and employing hose lines to mitigate the inferno.

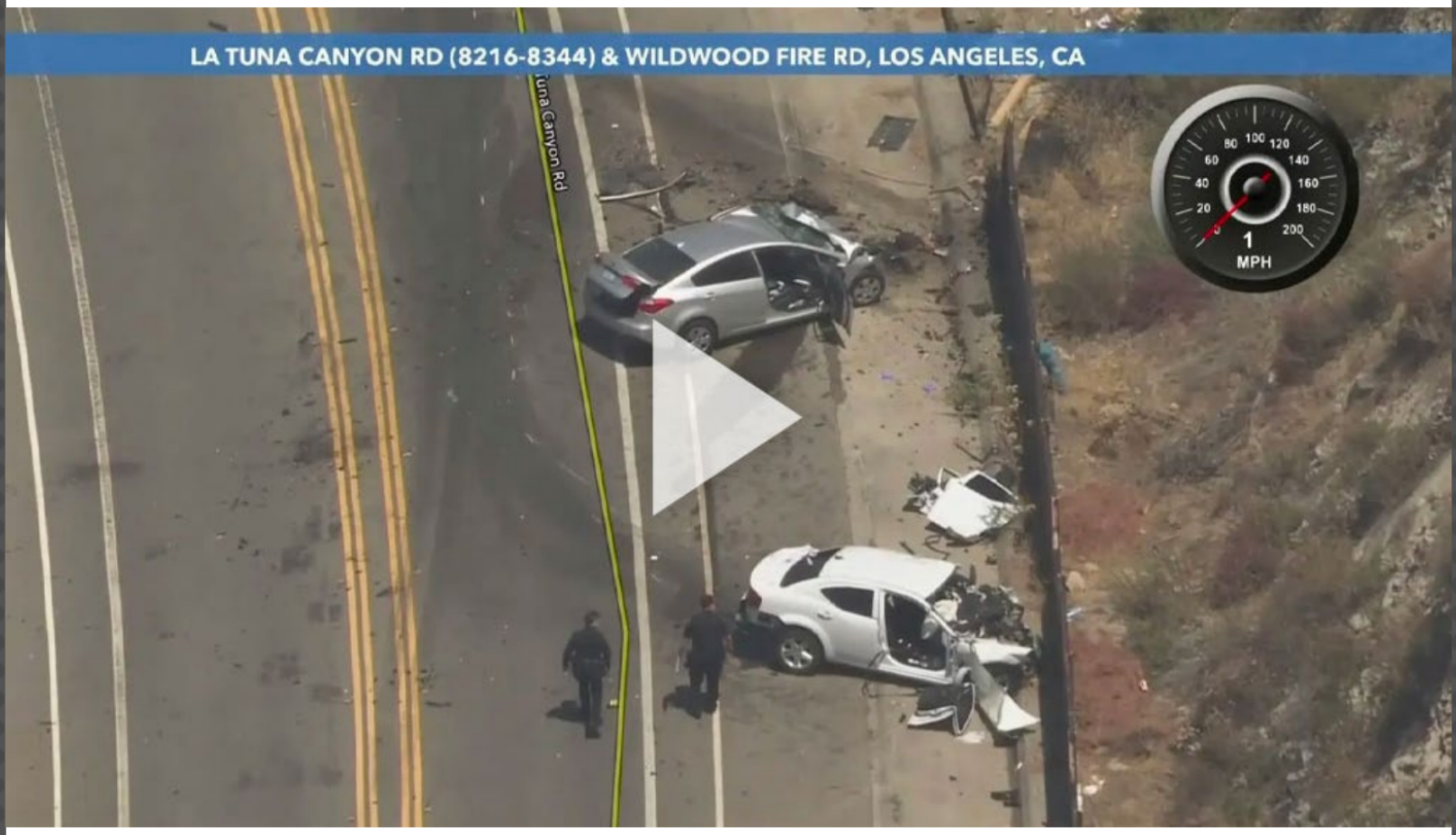
Hoodline

Crews Douse Fire at Florence-Area Textile Business

Crews knocked down a fire Tuesday evening at a textile/clothing store in the Florence area of Los Angeles, authorities said. The fire was reported shortly after 7 p.m. Tuesday at 715 E. 59th St., one block south of Slauson Avenue, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department, which said firefighters arrived to find flames showing from the roof of the two-story structure. The fire was apparently related to a construction roofing operation, the LAFD said. ÒThe rooftop fire activated fire sprinklers in the attic, which caused the ceiling to sag and leak water to the second floor below,Ó the department reported. ÒIt took 44 firefighters 15 minutes to extinguish the rooftop fire.Ó

MyNewsLA

First Responder News



1 dead, 1 seriously injured in head-on crash near Tujunga

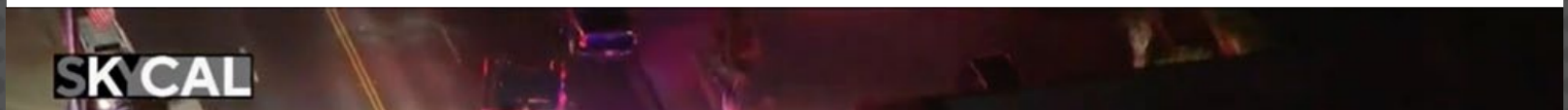
One person is dead and another seriously injured following a head-on crash in Shadow Hills near Tujunga Thursday afternoon. The crash happened around 12:50 p.m. on the 8400 block of West La Tuna Canyon Road, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. Video from Sky5 showed a silver Kia and a white Dodge sedan, each with significant front-end damage on the shoulder of the roadway. First responders arrived to the scene and found one person trapped in each vehicle. The driver of one vehicle, a man believed to be in his 30s, was removed from the vehicle with heavy equipment and taken to a local hospital with serious injuries.

KTLA5

Body Found at Base of Point Fermin Cliffs in San Pedro, LAFD and LAPD Investigating

Tragedy struck the peaceful backdrop of Point Fermin Park in San Pedro where a body, whose identity remains unknown, was discovered at the base of the cliffs on the afternoon of July 11th. The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) responded to the situation with urgency, indicating that the recovery of the deceased required the deployment of their helicopter hoist due to the inaccessible terrain. According to an LAFD alert, the operation began at approximately 4:49 PM near 807 W Paseo Del Mar.

Hoodline



Three people hospitalized after car crash in San Fernando

Paramedics from the Los Angeles Fire Department took three people to the hospital after a violent crash in San Fernando Monday night. The two-car collision happened at 500 S. San Fernando Mission Boulevard at about 8:25 p.m. One of the cars crashed into a nearby telephone pole. Firefighters extricated one of the occupants. Paramedics took one man, a woman, and another person to the hospital shortly afterward.
CBSLA

Van Crash in Van Nuys Injures Five, LAFD and LAPD On Scene Assessing Minor Injuries

Early this morning, a 10-passenger van was involved in a crash in Van Nuys, leading to at least five individuals being injured. The Los Angeles Fire Department responded to the incident which occurred near the 14000 block of W. Sherman Way, as reported at approximately 8:30 a.m. Details forthcoming were sparse, but the LAFD confirmed that all the patients were in stable condition after sustaining minor injuries. According to NBC Los Angeles, the crash prompted a response from firefighters who worked to assess the damage and attend to the injured.
Hoodline

Woman steals LAFD ambulance, arrested in Inglewood

A woman who was "experiencing a psychiatric crisis" allegedly stole an ambulance after paramedics responded to help her. She then drove the Los Angeles Fire Department ambulance from South Los Angeles to Inglewood, where she was eventually arrested. Paramedics were sent to the area of Gage Avenue and Hoover Street late Thursday morning on a "behavioral emergency" call, according to the LAFD. "While on scene, the patient, who appeared to be experiencing a psychiatric crisis, commandeered the rescue ambulance, identified as RA57, and left the scene without any ambulance personnel on board," according to an LAFD statement.

Fox11

LAFD Rescues Two Hikers in Pacific Palisades Over Weekend

In two separate incidents over the weekend, one day apart from each other, paramedics from LAFD helicopters descended into the Pacific Palisades to rescue hikers. On Saturday, July 13 at around 11:30 a.m., first responders located a 61-year-old woman with leg pain following a fall on the Los Leones Trail. LAFD reported that paramedics treated the patient on the scene, while LAFD helicopters planned to hoist the patient and transport her to a nearby hospital. The next day, just after 9:30 a.m., about seven miles apart from the prior incident, paramedics were lowered from LAFD helicopters to assess and treat a 53-year-old male patient in a remote location of Topanga State Park. The hiker was reported to be in a Òdifficult-to-access locationÓ within the park.

Palisades News

State News

ÔA fire yearÕ: California wildfires have burned more than 20 times as much land as last year

After a wet winter and hot summer, this yearÕs fire season is off to a fierce start. HereÕs the latest to date, including the largest fires burning in California. So far, more than 3,500 wildfires have eaten up at least 219,247 acres across the state, according to California fire officials. Tens of thousands of people have been evacuated, dozens of structures have been damaged or destroyed, and officials say at least one person has died. ÒWe are not just in a fire season, but we are in a fire year,Ó Joe Tyler, the head of Cal Fire, told reporters this week at a news conference.

LA Times

National News

988

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a national observance started in 1949 to bring attention to the importance of mental wellbeing. We can all help prevent suicide. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States.

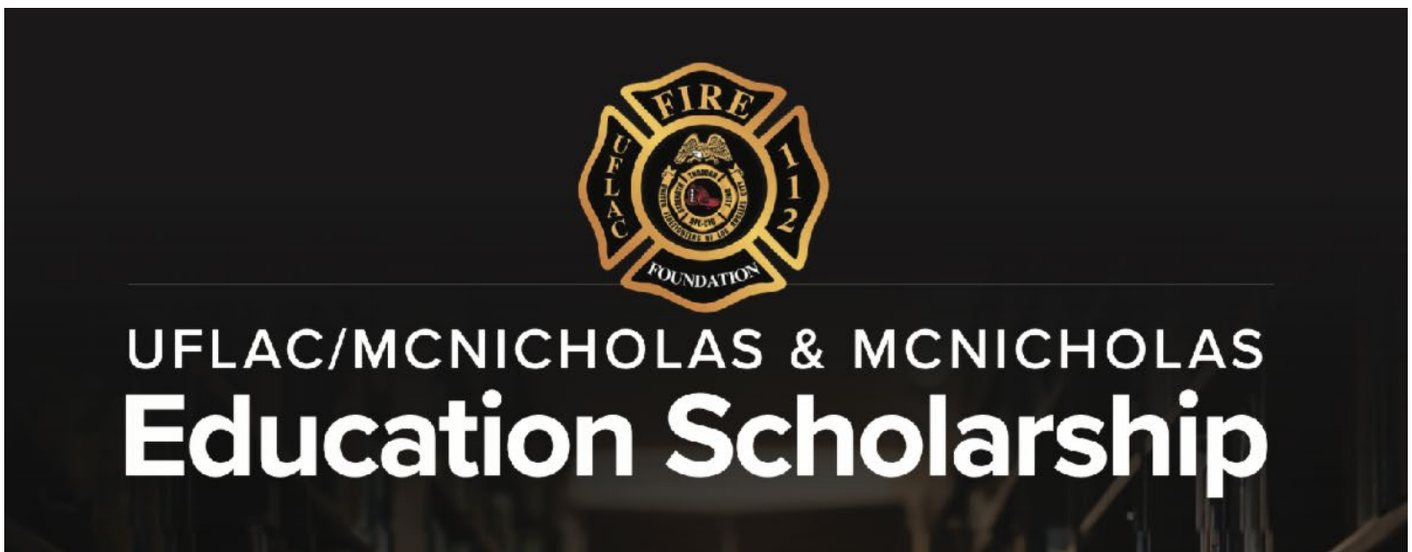
988

Above & Beyond

Photo courtesy of the LAFD

First Responders Sound the Alarm on Mental Health

LAFD members were invited to view a documentary that provided insight into the lives and experiences of the first responder community, their families, and the lives they touch. After the film, members listened to a panel presentation. The panel consisted of Molly OÕNeil, the wife of a Massachusetts State Trooper, Chris OÕNeil, who died by suicide in 2016; Erin O. Smith, the widow of Officer Jeffrey L. Smith of the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington D.C., who tragically lost his life in the line of duty on January 15, 2021, due to injuries sustained at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021; and Rob Verhelst, an active career firefighter for the City of Madison, Wisconsin, since 2000. Verhelst is also an Air Force Veteran who contributed to search and recovery efforts following the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center. The panelists shared their experiences and answered questions from the members.
LAFD



$50,000 in Scholarships for UFLAC Kids!

McNicholas & McNicholas, LLP is funding four scholarships throughout 2024 – $12,500 each – for children of United Firefighters of Los Angeles City members.

Having represented firefighters and police officers for over 25 years, we are extending our support to the classroom.

The deadline for 2024 scholarship submissions are:

Q1	March 15, 2024
Q2	June 15, 2024
Q3	September 15, 2024
Q4	December 15, 2024

Scan here to apply

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Events

POST TRAUMATIC PURPOSE

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TRAVIS HOWZE

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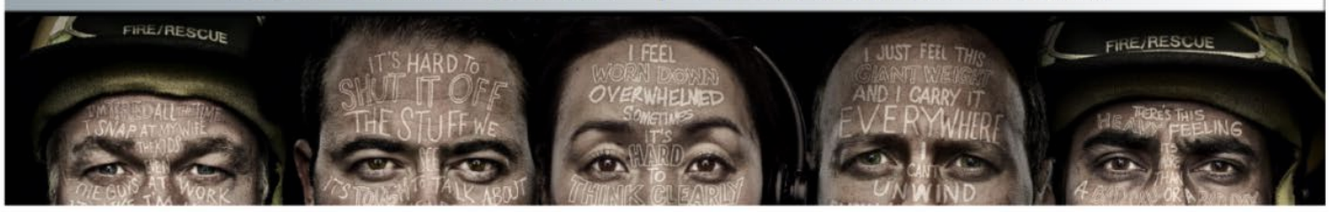

Post Traumatic Purpose is the Life Changing Mental Health Movement that brings awareness to all military personnel, veterans, first responders, jailers, dispatchers, health care workers, and their family members through hard transparent relatability.

Not your typical check-the-box wellness training, Post Traumatic Purpose is real, raw, emotionally energizing, and highly engaging. It is designed to stimulate positive growth at the individual, professional, and family level through ownership, acceptance, humor, and motivation.

ABOUT TRAVIS HOWZE

For over a decade, he has had the pleasure of speaking and teaching to departments nationwide and countless emergency services and mental health conferences, including law enforcement, firefighters, clinicians, the FBI, SWAT teams, private mental health organizations, and nationally ranked university student veterans' program.

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In Remembrance

Remembering Our Fallen Brothers & Sisters

Captain
Gerald D. Allingham
Deceased: 7/15/2024
Appointed: 5/12/1962
Assignment: FS 48
Retired: 3/12/1989

Battalion Chief
Kenneth M. Brass
Deceased: 7/11/2024
Appointed: 9/23/1957
Assignment: Battalion 4
Retired: 7/28/1985

Apparatus Operator
Richard B. Matthews
Deceased: 7/6/2024
Appointed: 4/20/1963
Assignment: FS 80
Retired: 6/28/1992

Firefighter III
Jimmy R. Bryan
Deceased: 7/5/2024
Appointed: 2/9/1963
Assignment: FS 112
Retired: 1/13/2002

Engineer
Glenn C. Parker
Deceased: 7/4/2024
Appointed: 11/1/1956
Assignment: FS 23
Retired: 3/3/1988

Battalion Chief
Jesse Cisneros
Deceased: 6/28/2024
Appointed: 9/4/1984
Assignment: Battalion 4-C
Retired: 9/30/2020

Assistant Chief
Robert J. De Feo
Deceased: 6/27/2024
Appointed: 2/20/1960
Assignment: Division 1
Retired: 2/21/2004

Captain
Lee R. Hook
Deceased: 6/25/2024
Appointed: 6/27/1959
Assignment: FS 16
Retired: 11/19/1992

Captain
Elwyn E. Moore
Deceased: 6/21/2024
Appointed: 4/8/1961
Assignment: FS 26
Retired: 7/29/1989

Captain
Alva G. Teel Jr.
Deceased: 6/18/2024
Appointed: 4/8/1961
Assignment: FS 37
Retired: 11/3/1983

Firefighter III
Curtis A. Poet
Deceased: 6/16/2024
Appointed: 2/3/1958
Assignment: FS 16
Retired: 7/28/1983

Fireman
Donald C. Bayer
Deceased: 6/11/2024
Appointed: 7/24/1965
Assignment: FS 90
Retired: 7/29/1990

UFLAC's 2023 LAFD Year In Review

UFLAC is proud to present the 2023 Los Angeles Fire Department Year in Review. UFLAC's mission is to lead the way to protect and advocate for the health, safety, working conditions, wages and benefits of our members and their families. This publication tells the story of our dedicated First Responders who continued to protect lives and property in Los Angeles while risking their own safety during another extraordinary year. In 2021, our Firefighters and Paramedics responded to more than 475,000 emergency calls for service throughout Los Angeles - an average of 1,300 calls per day.

As an all-risk fire and rescue agency serving more than four million people, the LAFD is one of the busiest and most understaffed big city fire departments in the entire country. UFLAC is honored to help showcase the dedication and commitment demonstrated by the men and women of the LAFD. Click HERE to view the publication.

***About UFLAC**: Since 1918, UFLAC has been the labor organization of the proud men and women that serve as firefighters and emergency medical responders protecting the City of Los Angeles. The members of the Los Angeles Fire Department rely on UFLAC to focus on the wellbeing and safety of those that protect the lives of others. For more information, visit www.uflac.org.*