

NEWS REPORT

Feature

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JUSTIN ALLEN CURTIS JR.
FIREFIGHTER III / PARAMEDIC **SEPTEMBER 4, 1968 - JULY 27**

Photo by Adam VanGerpen **UFLAC Mourns the Loss of LAFD Firefighter Justin A. Curtis**

On August 6th, a Celebration of Life was held for Active-Duty Los Angeles Fire Department Firefighter III Justin A. Curtis, who passed while off duty on July 27, 2024. Firefighter Curtis joined the LAFD on February 19, 2002 and served the people of Los Angeles with exceptional courage, commitment, and integrity. Our thoughts and prayers are with Justin's family, friends, and colleagues. Rest In Peace, Brother Justin.

BREAKING **BODY FOUND IN APARTMENT FIRE** atching': San Fernando Valley residents traumatized after yet another burgla 69 Apartment fire in Studio City leaves 1 dead One person is dead after a fire ripped through an apartment building in Studio City, the Los Angeles Fire Department confirmed. The blaze was first reported at 9:40 p.m. at 4258 North Colfax Avenue. It took just 17 minutes for 36 firefighters to extinguish the flames that tore through the building. Firefighters then searched the building, where they found a body. The person, who remains unidentified as of 10:30 p.m., was pronounced dead at the scene.

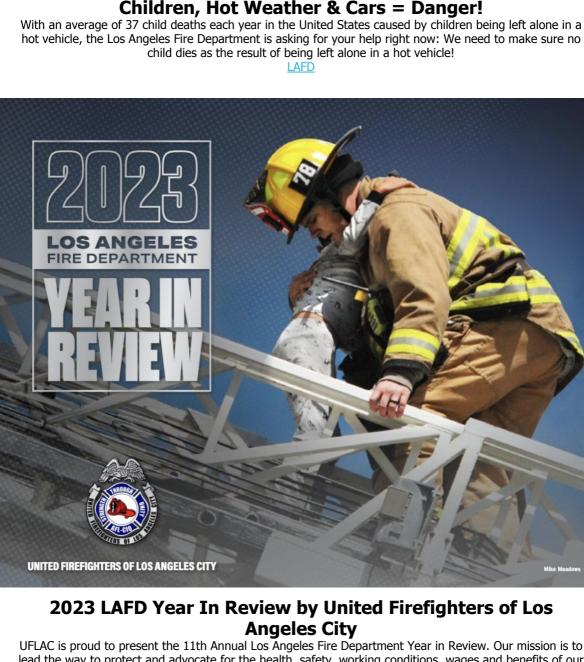
NEW AT 11PM HISTORIC RESTAURANT HEAVILY DAMAGED IN FIRE abc7.com Fire erupts at former Pacific Dining Car restaurant site in **Westlake District** A fire ripped through the original Pacific Dining Car restaurant in the Westlake District Saturday morning. Firefighters were sent to the century-old, abandoned building on W. Sixth Street at 12:14 a.m. and had the blaze out in about an hour, the Los Angeles Fire Department reported. Video posted to the Citizen App

shows the fire tearing through the restaurant. No injuries were reported. The Pacific Dining Car opened in 1921, inside a replica of a railway train car. It has been used in multiple movie and television shoots,

including 1974's "Chinatown" and 2001's "Training Day." It was designated a historic cultural monument buy city officials in 2023. Sarai Dorismond s 12,500.00 **UFLAC Fire Foundation Education Scholarships Awarded**

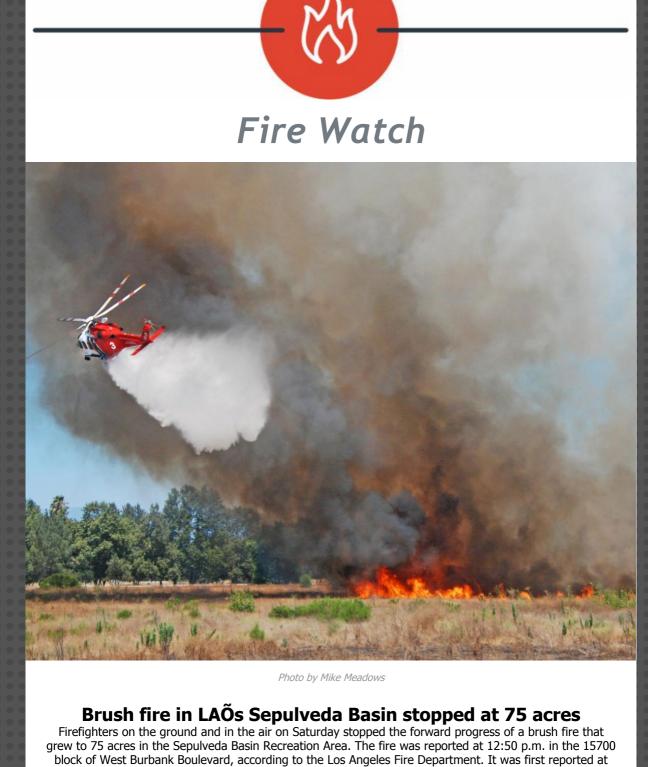
This quarter, two incredible children of UFLAC members were awarded with the UFLAC/McNicholas & McNicholas Education Scholarships by UFLACOS Fire Foundation! Congratulations to the well-deserving recipients: Sarai Dorismond who will pursue her passion for tennis and study business at Babson College in the fall and Marie Egizi who will pursue her love of music when she begins her college career at CSUN! **UFLAC Fire Foundation**

Dolores Garcia Retires After Nearly Four Decades with UFLAC UFLAC extends its deepest appreciation to Benefits Analyst Dolores Garcia for 37 years of dedicated service to our organization. Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement!



#HEATSTROKEKILLS

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.

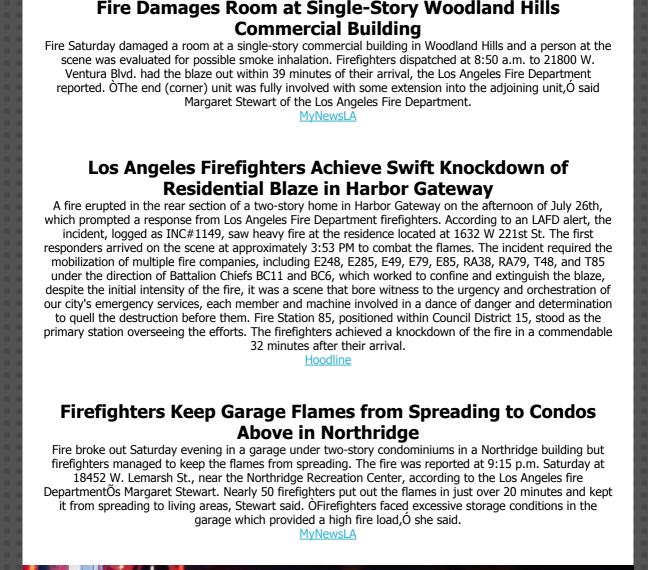


five acres, with a slow rate of spread, and was not threatening any infrastructure or buildings, the departmentÕs Brian Humphrey said. The areaÕs Apollo 11 Model Aircraft Field was Ocalmly evacuatedÓ as a precaution, he added. At 2:35 p.m., Humphrey reported that 69 firefighters stopped all forward progress of the fire northwest of the intersection of Burbank Boulevard and Woodley Avenue. Efforts to put out the fire continued. **LA Daily News**

Firefighters rescue cat from burning Los Angeles home Firefighters knocked down a house fire in Los Angeles on Thursday night and saved a manOs feline friend in the process. The blaze was reported at 18201 W Topham Street in Tarzana at about 10:54 p.m. Thursday. According to the L.A. Fire Department, the fire was active in the living room and attic of a onestory, 900-square-foot home. It took crews just 19 minutes to put out the fire, but in video captured by RMG News, firefighters can be seen helping a man who was frantically calling for his pet cat in the blaze. The cat was stuck in the home while the fire raged on, but crews luckily were able to save it and reunite it with its owner. Firefighters put out brush fire just off 405 Freeway in Bel-Air A brush fire was burning just off the 405 Freeway in Bel-Air Tuesday afternoon, authorities said. The blaze was reported at 1:55 p.m. near Mulholland Drive and the 405 Freeway and was estimated to be just an 1/8 acre but burning at a moderate rate, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. More than 60 firefighters put it out in 42 minutes with no injuries reported or structures damaged. At about 2:30 p.m., aerial footage showed five fire engines and at least a dozen firefighters on the side of the freeway while a few others hosed down an area of shrubbery that appeared blackened and burnt.

Los Angeles Firefighters Quell Victory Boulevard Blaze in North Hollywood, No Injuries Reported On the evening of August 3rd, a Greater Alarm structure fire broke out at a commercial building in North Hollywood. According to a report by the Los Angeles Fire Department, the fire began as an exterior rubbish blaze at 11717 W Victory BI before making its way into the building, resulting in heavy smoke. The incident, cataloged as INC#1557, started around 7:45 PM and firefighters from Station 89 were among the first responders to the scene. Fighting valiantly to control the flames, 58 members of the LAFD engaged in aggressive firefighting measures to contain the situation. Unfortunately, misplaced amid the chaos, an automotive repair firm within the building bore the brunt of the inferno. Reported by Brian Humphrey of the LAFD, "an offensive firefight at an exterior rubbish fire that extended into and was producing heavy smoke from within a 50' x 75' one-story commercial building on LAFD arrival." **Hoodline**

LAFD Rapidly Extinguishes Hollywood House Fire, No Injuries Reported A notable blaze erupted within a single-family home in Hollywood on the afternoon of July 25, as reported by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). According to the LAFD, firefighters were dispatched at approximately 4:27 p.m. to 1432 N Detroit St, where they encountered a one-story structure with visible flames. The LAFD quickly switched to offensive mode upon arrival, a strategy that saw firefighters aggressively attacking the fire from within the home. The coordinated response included the deployment of hose lines, and the ascent of ladders to access and ventilate the roof, the LAFD provided further details on their efforts. It took 42 firefighters, approximately 21 minutes to subdue the flames that had taken hold of the property. Hoodline



1/2 acre of heavy brush in tough terrain, was not propelled by wind, which aided firefighters in their efforts to control the spread, as detailed by the LAFD. Initial alerts communicated the dispatch of multiple battalions and specialized teams, including Helicopters 3, 4, and 5, which assisted in the precision attack required in the challenging topography of the Mulholland Drive area. **Hoodline**

First Responder News

Man fatally electrocuted after ending up on Metro Red Line tracks near North Hollywood, LAPD says A man died Saturday on the Metro Red Line tracks in a tunnel between Universal City and North Hollywood and it does not appear he was hit by a train. The Los Angeles Police Department says a 30-year-old man was found unconscious and not breathing at about 2:51 p.m. He died at the scene. It's believed the man touched the "third rail" and got electrocuted, LAPD said. He was not a Metro employee and it's unclear how he ended up on the tracks.

LAFD and County Lifeguards Recover Body from Cliff in San Pedro, Investigation Ongoing The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) joined forces with the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Lifeguard Division yesterday to recover a body found at the base of a cliff in San Pedro. The incident, which occurred near Royal Palms Park on the 2300 block of W Paseo Del Mar, was reported at approximately 12:57 PM. According to an LAFD alert, emergency services responded by land, sea, and air.

5.2 EARTHQUAKE RATTLES SOCAL

101

DEVELOPING STORY

MAN FOUND DEAD IN RED LINE TUNNEL

Photo by Ismael Miranda

Firefighters Put Out Flames in Los Angeles Commercial Building A fire in a single-story commercial building in Sun Valley was extinguished in 22 minutes by 44 firefighters Sunday evening. The fire was reported at 9:55 p.m. at 8220 N. Lankershim Blvd., between Tuxford and Strathern streets, according to Margaret Stewart of the Los Angeles Fire Department. The firefighters forced their way into the 3,750-square foot building to find the fire and put it out, Stewart said. Los Angeles Patch

Quick-Response LAFD Crews Extinguish Blaze in West Los Angeles Apartment Building, No Injuries Reported On the west side of Los Angeles, a garden-style apartment building on Texas Avenue fell victim to flames on Tuesday evening. The report indicated that a fire broke out in a unit of the three-story structure, which consists of two stories of residential space over parking, according to a release from the Los Angeles Fire Department. Los Angeles Fire Department personnel, responding to incident number 1252, were dispatched to the scene at 11661 W Texas Av in the Sawtelle neighborhood at 5:09 PM, where they found the unit engulfed in flames. Firefighters adopted an offensive approach to combat the blaze; however, it managed to spread from the apartment to an adjacent tree, which also caught fire, then threatened a second building before fire crews could intervene and quickly knock down the tree fire, preventing any further escalation "with no injuries reported," as reported by the LAFD. **Hoodline**

Los Angeles Firefighters Extinguish Crenshaw Apartment Fire in 16 Minutes, One Patient Receiving Care Yesterday, firefighters swiftly extinguished a blaze in the Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw neighborhood. The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) reported that the fire was contained within one unit of a two-story, garden-style apartment building located at 4001 S Nicolet Avenue. The LAFD alert confirmed that it took 30 firefighters a mere 16 minutes to knock down the flames after the initial call was received at 12:54 pm. Evaluating the scene's urgency, one patient from the second floor is now being cared for by firefighters/paramedics. Hoodline

LAFD Swiftly Contains Brush Fire in Tarzana, No Structures Damaged Early this morning, firefighters with the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) responded to a brush fire reported at 01:53 AM near 18349 Mulholland Drive in Tarzana. The blaze, which occurred on approximately

outhern California ktla.com Cockfighting operation in Southern California Magnitude 5.2 earthquake rattles Southern California A magnitude 5.2 earthquake struck near Bakersfield Tuesday evening sending out shockwaves felt across Southern California. The quake, which struck at a depth of around 6 miles just after 9 p.m., was approximately 7.6 miles west northwest of Mettler in Kern County, nearly 19 miles south of Bakersfield and 89 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Residents in Ventura, Simi Valley, Camarillo, Santa Clarita, Encino, Hollywood, Santa Monica, North Hollywood, Pasadena and Woodland Hills were among those who reported feeling the quake. The temblor was followed by at least 31 aftershock reaching up to magnitude 4.5, according to CaltechOs Seismological Laboratory. In a news release, officials with the Los Angeles Fire Department said Dearthquake modeO was initiated, prompting all 106 neighborhood fire stations to conduct surveys of the area by land, sea and air. KTLA5 25 people evacuated from East Hollywood building after propane tank leak A propane tank leak in East Hollywood led to the evacuation of people inside a nearby building Friday afternoon, authorities said. Hazardous materials specialists and firefighters responded at 1 p.m. to the leak from a 500-gallon tank near 437 North Vermont Avenue, a state office building people 25 people were evacuated, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. At the American Career College, just across the street, everyone inside the building was told to shelter in place, fire officials said. All lanes along a stretch of North Vermont Avenue, from Rosewood Avenue to Oakwood Avenue, were closed as a precaution. By 2:30 p.m., firefighters had secured the scene and a private contractor who had serviced the tank within just the past day secured the leak. **Lost Hiker Rescued in Pacific Palisades** The Los Angeles Fire Department was conducting a "capture" operation Sunday after a man got lost while hiking in Pacific Palisades. After a 911 call was placed around 10 a.m., helicopters were dispatched for the rescue operation at 20825 Entrada Road, near Topanga State Park, according to the LAFD. The hiker was uninjured. The fire department said first responders would transport him to a helispot to meet groundbased firefighters, who would assist in returning him to his transport. Westside Current

National News

UFLAC/MCNICHOLAS & MCNICHOLAS **Education Scholarship** \$50,000 in Scholarships

Photo by Gary Apodaca

2023 LAFD Civilian Employee Recognition Luncheon We are proud to announce the recipients of the Los Angeles Fire Department 2023 Civilian Employee Recognition Awards. The Civilian Employee Recognition Awards proudly highlights our civilian employees who have gone above and beyond. The Civilian Employee Recognition Committee (CERC) was established in 1991 to facilitate the recognition of outstanding civilian employee performance. At the end of each year nominations are submitted from the entire Department. The Committee reviews each submission and conducts interviews with the nominees. The final step requires the committee to perform background checks on each nominee and then recommend them to the Fire Chief.

In Remembrance Remembering Our Fallen Brothers & Sisters **ACTIVE DUTY Battalion Chief** Firefighter III **Kenneth M. Brass Justin A. Curtis** Deceased: 7/11/2024 Deceased: 7/27/2024 Appointed: 9/23/1957 Appointed: 2/19/2002 Assignment: Battalion 4 Assignment: FS 18 Retired: 7/28/1985 **Engineer Apparatus Operator** John S. Chatman Jr. **Richard B. Matthews** Deceased: 8/1/2024 Deceased: 7/6/2024 Appointed: 1/1/1976 Appointed: 4/20/1963 Assignment: FS 21 Assignment: FS 80 Retired: 6/30/2012 Retired: 6/28/1992

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

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

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

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. Above & Beyond LAFD FIREFIGHTERS HONORED **ONLY ON 5** Supreme Court blocks Missouri effort to block sentencing, gag order in Trui 84° LAFD Members Honored by Board of Fire Commissioners In June 2023, a group of three friends went hiking the Temescal Canyon Trail above the Pacific Palisades coastline. It was a warm, humid day and as the group returned to the trailhead, one hiker felt weak and dizzy, unable to continue walking. His friends were concerned and called 9-1-1, triggering the dispatch of a

hiker rescue response. Task Force 69 and their paramedic rescue ambulance, RA69, made their way to the canyon while LAFD Air Operations dispatched two helicopters (hoist aircraft and command aircraft). Engine 69 and RA69 members arrived and began an arduous hike up the canyon with the necessary equipment and supplies. The topography made radio communications difficult and the Metropolitan Fire Communications (MFC) 9-1-1 call-taker remained on the phone with the hikers and relayed information to the Incident Commander to help the crews locate the group. Engine 69 Captain was also experienced in the area and used his expertise to find a better line-of-sight to the command airship to improve their radio communications. Through their teamwork, the firefighters were able to locate their patient, a 55-year-old male complaining of dehydration, dizziness, nausea and difficulty walking.

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: Scan here to apply Q1 March 15, 2024 Q2 June 15, 2024 Q3 **September 15, 2024 Q4 December 15, 2024** First Responders, Follow Us! McNicholas& @FirstRespondersLaw Standing By for 20+ Years. an to Know Your Rights. McNicholasLaw.com | 213-322-0039 REPRESENTING FIRST RESPONDERS IN DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, RETALIATION AND ALL PERSONAL INJURY MATTERS.

Retired: 2/21/2004 **Firefighter III** Firefighter III Roy E. Hoppert Jimmy R. Bryan Deceased: 7/17/2024 Deceased: 7/5/2024 Appointed: 2/9/1963 Appointed: 2/9/1963 Assignment: FS 23 Assignment: FS 112 Retired: 2/21/1983 Retired: 1/13/2002 Captain **Engineer Gerald D. Allingham Glenn C. Parker** Deceased: 7/4/2024 Deceased: 7/15/2024 Appointed: 11/1/1956 Assignment: FS 23

Appointed: 5/12/1962 Appointed: 4/8/1961 Assignment: FS 48 Assignment: FS 26 Retired: 3/12/1989 Retired: 3/3/1988 Retired: 7/29/1989

responded to more than 475,000 Los Angeles - an average of 1,300 calls

emergency calls for service throughout

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 <u>HERE</u> 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.

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