



2024 VALOR & EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARDS

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024
PASADENA CONVENTION CENTER



PROUDLY PRESENTED BY THE F&A FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF ANTHONY C. MARRONE



On behalf of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to our 2024 Valor and Exemplary Service Awards Ceremony.

As Fire Chief, I am continually inspired by the unwavering commitment and selfless dedication exhibited by the members of our Department. Each day, our first responder and administrative staff go above and beyond the call of duty, whether by risking their lives on the line or tirelessly working behind the scenes to ensure the safety and well-being of the residents and communities we serve. Tonight,

we take the opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the remarkable achievements of our team members and partnering agencies. It is a time to acknowledge acts of bravery, quick thinking, and exceptional service that exemplify the core values of our Department.

The brave individuals honored tonight have faced daunting challenges with remarkable composure and professionalism, embodying the true spirit of heroism. During the ceremony, we will present valor awards to those individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary courage in the face of danger. Additionally, we will recognize the outstanding contributions of our administrative personnel who work behind the scenes to support our mission. Their dedication and diligence play a crucial role in ensuring the seamless operation of our Department, and their efforts do not go unnoticed.

Thank you for sharing this memorable and meaningful occasion with us as we come together to celebrate the exceptional achievements of our team and we pay tribute to the courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment of our first responder and administrative staff.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anthony C. Marrone".

ANTHONY C. MARRONE
County of Los Angeles Fire Chief



County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Supervisor, Second District



LINDSEY P. HORVATH
Chair, Third District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District

Order of Events

WELCOME

Sheila Kelliher

Fire Captain, County of Los Angeles Fire Department

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

*County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Honor Guard*

*County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Pipes and Drums*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Samantha Conn

Forestry Assistant, County of Los Angeles Fire Department

INVOCATION

Vince Roldan

Fire Captain, County of Los Angeles Fire Department

OPENING REMARKS

Marc Brown

ABC7 News Anchor, Emcee

Anthony C. Marrone

Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Department

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Marc Brown

ABC7 News Anchor, Emcee

CLOSING

Sheila Kelliher

Fire Captain, County of Los Angeles Fire Department

County of Los Angeles Fire Department Valor & Exemplary Service Awards

MEDAL OF VALOR



The Medal of Valor may be presented to fire series personnel in the Department who exhibited courage and risked their life to save another, or attempted to save the life of another, under conditions that put them at extreme personal risk. Fire series personnel must have exhibited their best professional judgment without jeopardizing the mission of the incident.

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

The Certificate of Valor may be presented to Department and outside agency personnel, as well as civilians who exhibited courage in saving a life or attempting to save a life, and/or whose actions put them at extreme personal risk.

UNIT CITATION

The Unit Citation may be presented to any unit or group of individuals within the Department whose combined effort was critical in saving a life or attempting to save a life.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Emergency Medical Services Award may be presented to Department personnel who have distinguished themselves by providing exceptional patient care.

EXEMPLARY SERVICE

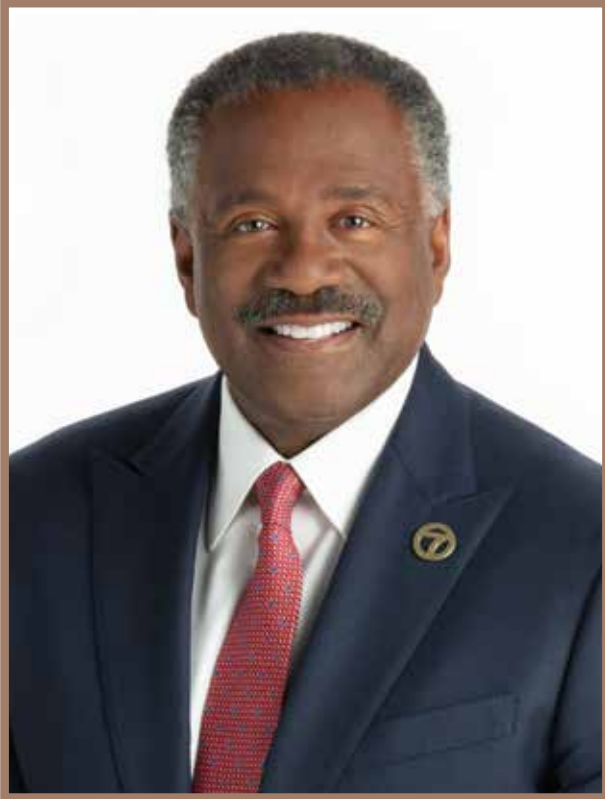
The Exemplary Service Awards may be presented to Department personnel who, through their actions and work, have demonstrated a commendable example of one of the Department's six core values: *integrity, teamwork, courage, commitment, community, and caring.*

FIRE CHIEF'S HELMET AWARD

The Fire Chief's Helmet Award recognizes the outstanding achievement of an individual or organization that exemplifies excellence in journalistic integrity and accuracy in the coverage of the Fire Department.

Emcee

MARC BROWN, ANCHOR ABC7



Marc Brown is the co-anchor for ABC7 Eyewitness News at 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Marc was born in Los Angeles, where he attended Narbonne High School. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Southern California, where he majored in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science.

Marc's first on-air job was in 1984 at KIEM-TV in Eureka, California. He went on to work as a reporter and anchor at KOLO-TV in Reno, Nevada, KNTV in San Jose, California, and KFMB-TV in San Diego, California.

Marc joined ABC7 in 1989 and first specialized in live reporting for the 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m. newscasts. He also served for a time as the weekend anchor.

Marc has won six Emmys, a Golden Mike, an Associated Press award, and a Radio and Television News Directors Association award for excellence in TV News reporting.

Marc is active in the community as a speaker at schools and as a Emcee for community events.



Fire Chiefs Helmet Award

STEVE GREGORY, NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT



Steve Gregory is a National Correspondent for iHeartMEDIA and since 2005 has been with KFI-AM 640 in Los Angeles. He also hosts the popular radio show/podcast, "Unsolved with Steve Gregory," on the IHeartRadio App.

Steve is an eight-time winner of the prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award. He has also received numerous Associated Press awards for Best Newscast, Best Special Program, and Best Series. Additionally, Steve has won international media awards for features on the Phoenix Fire Department and the U.S. Border Patrol along with more than 60 Golden Mike Awards for his coverage of breaking news, news specials, and investigative features, including his coverage of the San Bernardino Mass Shooting and the riots in Ferguson, Missouri, where he happened to dodge gunfire and was attacked during a live report.

Steve is in demand as a media relations consultant to police and fire departments throughout the country. He is a dear friend and consummate professional in the coverage of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements in exemplifying excellence in journalism integrity and accuracy, the County of Los Angeles Fire Department is pleased to present the Fire Chief's Helmet Award for 2024 to National Correspondent Steve Gregory.



Special Recognition

Hooman Hassanpour, Child Support Services Department

While vacationing with his family in Maui, a swimmer was drowning in the ocean by an area of large rocks, while an onlooker shouted for “help.” Child Support Services Department Chief Information Officer Hooman Hassanpour immediately sprang into action and swam out with great speed and determination to two distressed individuals in the ocean. Hooman immediately went under to rescue the swimmer who had been under water for at least 15 seconds. The individual was initially unresponsive, however, Hooman was able to rouse them to consciousness.



Hooman was able to get the person to focus and breathe so that he could also take hold of the other swimmer and begin to guide them both back to shore. Despite the rocky area, Hooman and the two individuals safely made it back to awaiting first responders.

Although Hooman suffered a deep laceration on his foot during the rescue, he considered his injury minor and was thankful to have been able to save the distressed swimmers.

For demonstrating exemplary skills and taking immediate action to save two lives, the Department is pleased to present a Special Recognition Award to Chief Information Officer Hooman Hassanpour.

Exemplary Service Award

INTEGRITY

Senior Nursing Instructor Yun Son Kim

Yun Son Kim is a Senior Nursing Instructor (SNI) in the Training and Emergency Medical Services Bureau Quality Improvement Section. Throughout 2023, while balancing her daily workload, SNI Kim displayed outstanding performance in migrating the NEMSIS 3.4 to 3.5 project to fruition.

Following countless hours of research and analysis to ensure the most achievable outcome, SNI Kim confirmed application success and that the new procedures guaranteed the best care for patients.

For her exceptional work ethic and dedication to the NEMSIS migration project, the Department is pleased to present an Exemplary Service Award for Integrity to Senior Nursing Instructor Yun Son Kim.



Exemplary Service Award

TEAMWORK

Fire Captain Reginald Johnson

Fire Fighter Specialist Steve Rogers

Fire Fighter Specialist Kevin Ballton

Fire Fighter Specialist Brent Times

Public safety and welfare are at the forefront of Fire Captain Reginald “Reggie” Johnson’s, and Fire Fighter Specialists Kevin Ballton, Steve Rogers, and Brent Times’ dedication to the communities they serve.

Together, they ensure new construction in the Cities of Inglewood, Hawthorne, and Gardena - including the SoFi stadium, YouTube theater, KIA Forum, and the soon to be Intuit Dome - are built according to fire prevention code. Additionally, they advance staffing, response plans, and dispatch procedures during all events held at these venues.

As a team, they work diligently and collaboratively with various members of the Department, outside agencies, and civic leaders to ensure fire prevention policies and procedures are upheld.

For their tireless dedication to selflessly helping others, the Department is pleased to present an Exemplary Service Award for Teamwork to Fire Captain Reggie Johnson, Fire Fighter Specialist Kevin Ballton, Fire Fighter Specialist Steve Rogers, and Fire Fighter Specialist Brent Times.



Exemplary Service Award



COURAGE

Fire Fighter Specialist Ryan Gennaro

As one of 80 Fire Prevention Division inspectors, Fire Fighter Specialist (FFS) Ryan Gennaro routinely utilizes the Department's invoicing system, FPFIS, for construction-related plan reviews and inspections. When he noticed inconsistencies within the system, FFS Gennaro promptly reacted by researching and initiating change.

After countless hours of research and meetings, FFS Gennaro identified, tested, and implemented numerous improvements that greatly contributed to software enhancements which equated into a more efficient cost recovery standard Countywide. In collaboration with Fire Captain Jason Nuesca, FFS Gennaro created a division-wide training program which was officially completed on November 28, 2023.

For his selflessness and dedication in lending his time and knowledge to improve efficiency and train his colleagues, the Department is pleased to present an Exemplary Service Award for Courage to Fire Fighter Specialist Ryan Gennaro.



COMMITMENT

Procurement Assistant II Wai Yin Wong

Quietly working behind the scenes, Procurement Assistant II Wai Yin Wong consistently demonstrates commitment and exemplary service in acquiring equipment and systems that ensure daily Department operations are met.

Procurement Assistant II Wong played a vital role in facilitating the acquisition of the Department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for the Department's 9-1-1 Dispatch Center. Through the CAD system, 9-1-1 emergency calls for service are processed in a "horizontal dispatch" method. Dispatch call-takers enter the request for service after receiving the necessary information. After the incident is entered for dispatch, following a set of Department protocols, call-takers provide pre-arrival instructions for the individual as required for those requiring medical assistance. Simultaneously, the request/call is electronically sent to a "Dispatch Point," where units are assigned, and the call is routed to a one of several geographical telephone radio operators.



For her strong work ethic and professionalism, the Department is pleased to present an Exemplary Service Award for Commitment to Procurement Assistant II Wai Yin Wong.

Exemplary Service Award

COMMUNITY

Staff Assistant II Jose Cortez

Staff Assistant II Jose Cortez is well known for his strong work ethic and professionalism in the Department.

On November 4, 2023, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors sponsored the first Charitable Giving Softball Tournament since the pandemic. Staff Assistant II Cortez did not waste time, rising to the occasion to recruit participation from various divisions and sections throughout the Department.

While serving as team captain, Staff Assistant II Cortez demonstrated commitment and leadership by coordinating practices and ensuring everyone was familiar with tournament rules. The Department's softball team greatly appreciated his leadership, team pride, and flexibility.

For his inspiring and outstanding commitment to creating community, camaraderie, and building morale, the Department is pleased to present an Exemplary Service Award for Community to Staff Assistant II Jose Cortez.



CARING

Fire Dispatcher II Elaine Rivera

Fire Dispatcher II (FD II) Elaine Rivera received a 9-1-1 call in the early afternoon of September 28, 2022, in which she would provide exceptional care and skillful instruction. The caller, a frantic father, called 9-1-1 after finding his son unconscious in the family home bathroom. FD II Rivera calmly provided instructions to the father on how to administer CPR, while keeping the distraught father as calm as possible.

At one point, the father disconnected the call to reach out to his wife, and FD II Rivera called back immediately to ensure he did not stop performing CPR and stood on the line until firefighters arrived.

The father recounted, "I have told friends and family that it was just me, my son, God, and the 9-1-1 dispatcher at 12:03 p.m. It was without question the darkest, lowest, and saddest moment of my life and FD II Rivera gave me comfort I could have never imagined in such a horrific situation." Although his son passed away that afternoon, the father was most appreciative and thankful that FD II Rivera remained with him on the phone that day.

For demonstrating a calm and professional demeanor and going above and beyond to assist a father whose son was undergoing a medical emergency, the Department is pleased to present an Exemplary Service Award for Caring to Fire Dispatcher II Elaine Rivera.



EMS Award



TRAFFIC COLLISION

Battalion Chief Joe Granados

Fire Captain Robert Artle

Fire Captain Eddie Diaz

Fire Fighter Specialist Chris Kolstad

Fire Fighter Specialist Josh Wilson

Fire Fighter Dajon Curtis

Fire Fighter Michael Dussinger

Fire Fighter Heidi Hoslet

Fire Fighter Ryan Lepper

Fire Fighter Philip Oliva

Fire Fighter Troy Ruiz

Fire Fighter Brodie Watts

On December 1, 2023, Fire Station 30 firefighters were enroute to a 9-1-1 response in Fire Station 34's district when they were diverted to a nearby two-vehicle traffic collision involving a pedestrian.

With a total of four patients, Squad 30 and Engine 94 firefighters employed swift and immediate action, initiating patient triage, treatment, and requesting an additional squad and ambulance. Squad 30 firefighters rendered care to the injured pedestrian whose lower leg had been amputated, by applying two tourniquets and administering a TXA.

Firefighters assigned to Engine 94 and Squad 98 treated two patients in one vehicle, including a passenger with a head injury, and another passenger with a leg injury, along with the driver of the second vehicle who initially refused medical treatment. In the chaos of the incident, the Battalion 9 chief arrived on scene and took over as the incident commander and successfully located the amputated lower leg under several pieces of concrete.

All patients were stabilized and transported to local area hospitals for further evaluation and treatment.

For demonstrating exemplary skills and taking immediate action as a team to save the lives of multiple patients, the Department is pleased to present an Emergency Medical Services Award to Battalion Chief Joe Granados, Fire Captain Robert Artle, Fire Captain Eddie Diaz, Fire Fighter Specialist Chris Kolstad, Fire Fighter Specialist Josh Wilson, Fire Fighter Dajon Curtis, Fire Fighter Michael Dussinger, Fire Fighter Heidi Hoslet, Fire Fighter Ryan Lepper, Fire Fighter Philip Oliva, Fire Fighter Troy Ruiz, and Fire Fighter Brodie Watts.



EMS Award

BEE STING

Fire Captain Brian Coe

Fire Fighter Specialist Randal Southwick

Fire Fighter Anthony Rozell

Fire Fighter Adolfo Sandoval

Fire Fighter Anthony Wilborn

On October 13, 2023, Engine and Squad 30 firefighters responded to a 9-1-1 emergency medical services response in the City of Cerritos. The patient was stabilized and loaded onto an ambulance for transport to a local area hospital.

As the ambulance and Squad 30 began to pull away, the ambulance stopped. Fire Fighter (FF) Sam Turpin exited the ambulance and notified FF Anthony Wilborn that he had been stung by a bee and collapsed in the middle of the street.

Without hesitation, FF Wilborn, along with firefighters from Engine 30, took immediate action, rendering life-saving aid to their partner who was suffering from a severe allergic reaction. Squad 115 arrived shortly thereafter and took over care for the first patient and transported them to a local area hospital for further evaluation and treatment. Engine and Squad 30 firefighters accompanied FF Turpin to a local area hospital and he has since made a full recovery.

For demonstrating exemplary skills and taking immediate action as a team to save one of their own, the Department is pleased to present an Emergency Medical Services Award to Fire Captain Brian Coe, Fire Fighter Specialist Randal Southwick, Fire Fighter Anthony Rozell, Fire Fighter Adolfo Sandoval, and Fire Fighter Anthony Wilborn.



EMS Award



TRAFFIC COLLISION

Fire Captain Adolfo Chanex
Fire Captain Timothy Karp

Fire Fighter Thaddeus Thomas
Fire Fighter Ryan Tobin

On July 3, 2023, Fire Station 94 firefighters were dispatched to a devastating three-vehicle traffic collision in the City of Lakewood with one patient trapped, presenting a daunting and perilous rescue, and with additional injured patients.

Amidst the wreckage was a vehicle with the rear portion thrust into the front passenger area, trapping the driver. The trapped patient suffered significant blunt force trauma that led to cardiac arrest. Faced with a complex incident, firefighters established order, orchestrating a symphony of life-saving efforts from firefighters.

Almost 15 minutes passed, but firefighters remained resolute, not only extricating, and treating the trapped patient, but simultaneously triaging and treating the other injured individuals. Firefighters, along with Falck Ambulance emergency medical technicians, worked hand in hand to ensure the swift transport of the patients to local area hospitals for further evaluation and treatment.

For demonstrating exemplary skills and taking immediate action as a team to save the lives of multiple patients, the Department is pleased to present an Emergency Medical Services Award to Fire Captain Adolfo Chanex, Fire Captain Timothy Karp, Fire Fighter Thaddeus Thomas, and Fire Fighter Ryan Tobin.



EMS Award

MOTORCYCLE COLLISION

Fire Fighter Samuel Turpin

Fire Fighter Anthony Wilborn

On October 25, 2023, Fire Fighters (FFs) Samuel Turpin and Anthony Wilborn arrived on scene to find a 53-year-old male lying in the street following a motorcycle collision. The patient's leg was partially amputated at the distal end of the femur and again at the ankle.

During patient transport, the patient started hemorrhaging, and FFs Turpin and Wilborn immediately applied a tourniquet. With bleeding continuing, a second tourniquet was placed, and a hemostatic bandage promptly placed with direct pressure over the open wound. Additionally, two IV sites were obtained and IV fluids as well as pain medication was administered by FFs Turpin and Wilborn.

Upon arrival to the trauma bay at MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center, the patient was immediately taken to the operating room by the Trauma Team and an above the knee amputation was performed.

The on-call trauma surgeon confirmed that the patient had life and limb threatening injuries and that the actions of FFs Turpin and Wilborn, by timely applying tourniquets and the hemostatic pressure bandages, saved his life.

For demonstrating exemplary skills and taking immediate action to save the patient's life, the Department is pleased to present an Emergency Medical Services Award to Fire Fighter Samuel Turpin and Fire Fighter Anthony Wilborn.





Unit Citation

BALDY INCIDENT

*Battalion 2 Chiefs
Engine 62
Quint 64*

*Squad 101
USAR Task Force 103
Heavy Equipment*

On April 13, 2023, Department firefighters along with Heavy Equipment personnel were dispatched to a swiftwater incident near Mountain Avenue and Barrett Stoddard Truck Trail in Mt. Baldy. Upon arrival, witnesses shared with firefighters that an 18-year-old individual had slid down a slope and into a tunnel and had vanished into the raging water.

Department personnel, over the course of several days, coordinated with multiple outside agencies including the County of Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, to search for the missing person.

Sadly, the body of the 18-year-old individual was found and identified the following week.

For exhibiting extraordinary professionalism and exemplary skills in collaborating as a team to locate a missing individual, the Department is pleased to present a Unit Citation to Battalion 2 Chiefs, Engine 62, Quint 64, Squad 101, Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 103, and Heavy Equipment.



Unit Citation

IRWINDALE INCIDENT

Fire Captain Stephen Doreck

Fire Fighter Daniel Redruello

Fire Fighter Specialist Trenton Richert

Detective Byron Araica

Fire Fighter Jeremy Munyon

On October 4, 2023, firefighters were dispatched to a psychological rescue on the 210 freeway. Upon arrival, firefighters found several Irwindale police officers holding onto an individual through a chain link fence. The individual was threatening to jump off the overpass onto the 210 freeway.

Firefighters immediately operated in rescue mode utilizing a rotary saw to cut through the fence to gain better access. Both firefighters and police officers continued to talk with the individual and respond with patience, grace, and compassion.

A rope system was deployed by firefighters assigned to Engine and Patrol 97 to secure the individual with assistance from Irwindale police officers to prevent them from falling. Firefighters assigned to Quint 97 also deployed the aerial ladder to gain access from below the overpass.

Thanks to the teamwork and coordination between the Department and Irwindale Police Department, the individual was successfully brought back to safety, evaluated, and transported to a local area hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

For exemplifying the very best of our Department and the Irwindale Police Department by demonstrating quick-thinking and providing meaningful care and overwhelming kindness to a person in need, the Department is pleased to present a Unit Citation to Fire Captain Stephen Doreck, Fire Fighter Specialist Trenton Richert, Fire Fighter Jeremy Munyon, Fire Fighter Daniel Redruello, and Irwindale Detective Byron Araica.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT *2024 Valar & Exemplary Service Awards*



Unit Citation

ESTORIL INCIDENT

Fire Captain Sonny Farrell

Fire Fighter John Stein

Fire Captain Jeff Garrett III

Fire Fighter Justin Turner

Fire Captain Jesus Vasquez

Fire Fighter Jason Unzueta

Fire Fighter Anthony Csurilla

Fire Dispatcher II Keri Kiss

Fire Fighter Keoni Salazar

Fire Dispatcher II Ashley White

Fire Fighter Joshua Salaets

On December 2, 2023, Fire Dispatcher II (FD II) Keri Kiss received a 9-1-1 call from a distressed 71-year-old individual who stated their condominium was on fire and that they were trapped and unable to get out. While on the line, FD II Kiss obtained critical information regarding the location of the victim which was relayed to FD II Ashley White. FD II White immediately ordered an ambulance and provided critical information to responding firefighters assigned to Engine 120 that would later help them locate the victim.

Upon arrival, firefighters assigned to Engine and Patrol 120 found heavy smoke and fire showing from the second story of the single-family home and quickly performed a 360 of the structure. Engine 119 firefighters arrived on scene shortly thereafter. Fire Fighters (FFs) Keoni Salazar and Joshua Salaets entered the structure and immediately encountered heavy smoke and hoarding conditions. FFs Salazar and Salaets utilized the detailed information provided by FD IIs Kiss and White to locate the patient and move them to the top of the stairwell.

FFs John Stein and Anthony Csurilla who had also entered the structure assisted in carrying the patient down the stairwell. Fire Captains Jesus Sanchez and Sonny Farrell joined the firefighters in carrying the patient and clearing a pathway through the cluttered first floor and outside of the structure.

Once outside, FFs Jason Unzueta and Justin Turner, assigned to Squad 119, immediately initiated advanced life support procedures, and transported the patient to a local area hospital for further evaluation and treatment. Upon arrival at the hospital, the patient regained consciousness and began to breath spontaneously.

Firefighters successfully extinguished the fire and remained on scene for overhaul operations before turning the incident over to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to investigate the cause of the fire.

For displaying exceptional skill, decisive action as a team, and overwhelming care in saving a person's life, the Department is pleased to present a Unit Citation to Fire Captain Sonny Farrell, Fire Captain Jeff Garrett III, Fire Captain Jesus Vasquez, Fire Fighter Anthony Csurilla, Fire Fighter Keoni Salazar, Fire Fighter Joshua Salaets, Fire Fighter John Stein, Fire Fighter Justin Turner, Fire Fighter Jason Unzueta, Fire Dispatcher II Keri Kiss, and Fire Dispatcher II Ashley White.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT 2024 Valar & Exemplary Service Awards



Medal of Valor

GRAND INCIDENT

Fire Fighter Specialist Craig Ross

Unit Citation

Fire Fighter David Baumann

Fire Fighter Shane Manners

Fire Fighter Randall Bishop

Pilot Ryan Van Dyck

On August 20, 2023, Air Operations personnel responded to a perilous swiftwater rescue involving an adult trapped in the East Regional Operations Bureau San Antonio Wash attempting to self-rescue.

Upon arrival, Air Operations personnel coordinated with two engines on scene and proceeded south until they successfully located the victim. Fire Fighter Specialist (FFS) Craig Ross, one of two rescue swimmers, was deployed via hoist cable by Crew Chief Dave Baumann into the wash where FFS Ross utilized the “Cearly Strap” and rescued the victim who was about to pass out and be washed under a nearby tunnel.

Both FFS Ross and the patient were swiftly short hauled by Pilot Van Dyck, along with Crew Chiefs Bishop and Baumann. After landing and disconnecting from the hook, FFS Ross assessed and determined the patient was in dire need and requested medical equipment from Copter 22. Copter 22 quickly deployed Fire Fighter Shane Manners with the necessary medical equipment to their location.

After assessing the patient and determining they were in critical condition, the person was safely lifted and transported to a local area trauma hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

For displaying extraordinary courage, skill, and teamwork in the face of danger and risking their own safety to save a life, the Department is pleased to present a Medal of Valor to Fire Fighter Specialist Craig Ross, and a Unit Citation to Fire Fighter David Baumann, Fire Fighter Randall Bishop, Fire Fighter Shane Manners, and Pilot Ryan Van Dyck.





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT 2024 Valor & Exemplary Service Awards



Medal of Valor

RAMSDELL INCIDENT

Fire Captain Ryan Kirwan

On July 12, 2023, firefighters responded to a one-story commercial structure fire. During interior fire attack, a heavy lathe and plaster ceiling collapsed on Fire Captain (Captain) Nathaniel Denver and Fire Fighter (FF) Bryan Carreon forcing and pinning them to the ground.

Following the ceiling collapse, an industrial refrigerator fell on top of the impacted ceiling, increasing the load on FF Carreon. Captain Denver worked hard to free himself as he felt the increasing heat. He recognized that his path to the front door was blocked if he was able to free himself; and his only exit would be through the intact window on the alpha side of the building.

Then-Fire Fighter Specialist (FFS) Ryan Kirwan was outside the building and could see FF Carreon, who was pinned in a prone position with his head exposed. As firefighters worked to free FF Carreon, FFS Kirwan set out to find Captain Denver.

FFS Kirwan recognized that any path to the front door from the interior was blocked, so he quickly utilized a rubbish hook to break the larger window to the left of the front door. The moment the window broke, Captain Denver felt a surge of power and was able to free himself and crawl backward toward the window. FFS Kirwan and a fellow firefighter quickly grabbed Captain Denver's legs and successfully pulled him out of the burning building to safety.

After multiple techniques failed to lift the ceiling to free FF Carreon, FFS Kirwan noticed a horizontal structural member was preventing the ceiling from moving, so he quickly grabbed a chainsaw to dice the wooded members, thereby creating space for the ceiling to be lifted and FF Carreon rescued.

For taking decisive action and displaying extraordinary courage, quick-thinking, and selfless bravery, the Department is pleased to present a Medal of Valor to Fire Captain Ryan Kirwan.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT 2024 Valor & Exemplary Service Awards



Medal of Valor

NEWPORT BEACH STRUCTURE FIRE

Fire Fighter Timothy Ecker

Around 9:30 a.m., on August 17, 2023, off duty Fire Fighter (FF) Timothy Ecker was driving and came across a mobile home fire on West Coast Highway in the City of Newport Beach. Neighbors were attempting to break down the gate and throw bricks through a window to wake up two elderly residents believed to be trapped inside one of the burning mobile homes.

FF Ecker immediately sprang into action, broke through the gate, entered the burning mobile home, and quickly located the two elderly residents. FF Ecker swiftly rescued and carried out the bedridden mother while also ensuring her daughter also made it out safely. After the rescue, FF Ecker had to quickly leave as his dog had escaped from his vehicle.

Newport Beach firefighters arrived on scene during the rescue and encountered heavy smoke and fire in the mobile home community and immediately requested a second alarm resource assignment. Both elderly residents were treated by Newport Beach firefighters; the mother was transported to a local area hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

A total of 28 mobile homes were saved; sadly, three homes were destroyed and an additional three damaged.

Despite losing everything, the daughter Michelle began looking for the stranger who had saved their lives. Michelle shared that “no one knew who he was or where he went. He had just simply disappeared... an Angel? Indeed! God does work in mysterious ways.”

Recently, Michelle was reunited with FF Ecker in a heartwarming reunion to thank him for rescuing and bringing both her and her mother to safety.

For his extraordinary courage, quick-thinking, and selfless bravery, the Department is pleased to present a Medal of Valor to Fire Fighter Timothy Ecker.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT *2024 Valor & Exemplary Service Awards*



F&A Congratulates the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Valor Awards Honorees



We are honored and proud to support such extraordinary achievements.



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The Association of Chiefs would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the recipients of the Medal of Valor and other distinguished awards. Your bravery, dedication, and exceptional service have not gone unnoticed, and we are deeply grateful for your contributions to the community. Thank you for all that you do.



UNION STRONG

On behalf of the over 3,400 members of LA County Firefighters IAFF Local 1014, we congratulate all our Medal of Valor recipients this year! You embody the best of the Department and our core values of courage, integrity, and teamwork through services to our communities.





BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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PHONE: 213-974-3333 | FAX: 213-625-7360

LINDSEY P. HORVATH
CHAIR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
THIRD DISTRICT

April 25, 2024

Los Angeles County Fire Department
F&A Federal Credit Union

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to welcome you to the Los Angeles County Fire Department's 2024 Valor Awards Ceremony. Tonight, we honor Fire Department team members and public safety partners who tirelessly serve our community. Their courage, commitment, and integrity embody the values of public service that we most uphold.

The courage of Los Angeles County Fire Department members is unwavering. They begin every day with purpose, placing themselves at risk to protect all of Los Angeles County. My team is especially grateful for our collaboration to serve communities across the Third District. We have been no stranger to natural disasters this past year, including wildfires, torrential downpours, and mudslides. The Fire Department has been instrumental in helping protect and rebuild our communities during these difficult times.

Thank you to Chief Marrone for your leadership and to Marc Brown for serving as the master of ceremonies. I'd also like to thank F&A Federal Credit Union for making it possible for us to celebrate the work and impact of the Los Angeles County Fire Department tonight.

I'm grateful to be in community with you, and hope this night is one to remember.

My sincerest thanks and congratulations,

Sincerely,

Lindsey P. Horvath
Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Third District



**EAST SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
DISTRICT OFFICE**

7555 Van Nuys Boulevard, Suite 1
Van Nuys, CA 91405

**WEST VALLEY/MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES
DISTRICT OFFICE**

26600 Agoura Road, Suite 100
Calabasas, CA 91302

**METRO WEST LA
DISTRICT OFFICE**

6464 West Sunset Boulevard, Suite 710
Los Angeles, CA 90028



Los Angeles County Supervisor

HILDA L. SOLIS

First District

*Los Angeles County Supervisor
Hilda L. Solis, First District, proudly
celebrates the Los Angeles County Fire
Department's 2024 Valor Awards
Ceremony!*



@HILDASOLIS





BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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500 W. Temple Street, Ste. 866, Los Angeles, California 90012
Phone: 213-974-2222 | Fax: 213-680-3283

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT



April 25, 2024

Dear Friends and Honored Guests,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Los Angeles County Fire Department 2024 Valor Awards. Congratulations to our Fire Department team members and public safety partners being recognized for their integrity, commitment, and exemplary courage in serving our communities.

The department's rich history of innovation and accomplishment have shaped the County's stellar emergency services landscape as well as the United States and beyond. Public safety is a priority we share, and I am proud to work alongside the Fire Department and public safety partners in helping to keep all Angelenos safe. Thank you for your dedication to protecting lives and the environment.

On behalf of the 2 million residents who call the Second Supervisorial District home, I am pleased to join you in celebrating this momentous occasion and extend my best wishes to all for continued success.

Sincerely,
H. Mitchell

Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor, Second District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

822 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
Telephone (213) 974-4444 / FAX (213) 229-3676

JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District

April 25, 2024

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2024 Valor Awards Ceremony Dinner!

Tonight, we celebrate heroes. In July, when residents of Rolling Hills Estates faced a devastating natural disaster, it was the brave men and women of the Los Angeles County Fire Department who provided invaluable guidance, comfort, and support. We were reminded of something I've said many times before but can never overstate: we have the best fire department in the nation right here in LA County.

Congratulations to all of tonight's awardees, and thank you to F&A Federal Credit Union for hosting and to ABC7's Marc Brown for once again serving as Master of Ceremonies tonight.

To all our firefighters, volunteers, and public safety partners of the LA County Fire Department: thank you for your extraordinary dedication to the safety and well-being of the people of Los Angeles County. They are in the most capable hands. Enjoy your evening.

Sincerely,

JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District
County of Los Angeles





BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

869 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION/LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
Tel: 213-974-5555 Fax: 213-974-1010

KATHRYN BARGER
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

April 25, 2024

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to join you to celebrate the Los Angeles County Fire Department's 2024 Valor Awards.

The men and women of the Los Angeles County Fire Department are well known for their bravery and resiliency. Tonight, we hear stories of heroism and sacrifice that happen in our communities every day. These are just a small fraction of the valiant efforts that are displayed by our incredible Fire Department personnel.

Each of tonight's honorees embodies courage, care, and commitment to this County and its residents. I am truly grateful for your work in keeping us safe.

Congratulations to all the honorees. Your dedicated service has not only made Los Angeles County safer, but it has also inspired a sense of security and gratitude in all of us.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn Barger".

KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District



County of Los Angeles Fire Department Executive Leadership

Fire Chief Anthony C. Marrone

Chief Deputy Jon F. O'Brien
Emergency Operations

Chief Deputy Theresa R. Barrera
Business Operations

Deputy Fire Chief Dennis Breshears
North Regional Operations Bureau

Deputy Fire Chief Eleni Pappas
East Regional Operations Bureau

Deputy Fire Chief Nick Duvally
Emergency Management and Event Planning

Deputy Fire Chief Al Yanagisawa
Prevention Services Bureau

Deputy Fire Chief Mike Inman
Special Services Bureau

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Brian Bennett
Central Regional Operations Bureau

Deputy Fire Chief Julia Kim
Administrative Services Bureau

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Brian Martin
Leadership and Professional Standards Bureau

Deputy Fire Chief William Mayfield, Jr.
Training and Emergency Medical Services Bureau

2024 Valor & Exemplary Awards Ceremony produced by

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Sandra Lopez, Senior Typist Clerk

Pasadena Convention Center

"A HERO IS AN ORDINARY
INDIVIDUAL WHO FINDS THE
STRENGTH TO PERSEVERE
AND ENDURE IN SPITE OF
OVERWHELMING OBSTACLES."

–Christopher Reeve

FIRE CHIEF ANTHONY C. MARRONE 1320 N. Eastern Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90063

*Produced by the Communications Section
of the Executive Support Division.*

April 2024



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