



MEDIA ADVISORY

May 1, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Orange County Fire Authority, Orange County Sheriff's Department and Orange County Parks to Hold Press Conference on Preventing Wildland Fires

Contact: Captain Steve Concialdi, OCFA Contact at (714) 357-7782 or steveconcialdi@ocfa.org
Lt. Jeff Hallock, OCSO Contact at (714) 904-7042 or jhallock@ocsd.org
Marisa O'Neil, OC Parks Contact at (714) 973-6870 or Marisa.O'Neil@ocparks.com

Who: The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) in partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSO), Orange County Parks and neighboring fire and police agencies and community groups will hold a press conference in association with Wildfire Awareness Week. California is in a state of emergency with the recent drought, and Orange County's long, hot and dry months with very little rain make our wildland areas vulnerable to severe wildfire conditions.

What: OCFA Fire Chief Keith Richter, OCFA Assistant Chief Dave Thomas, OCSO Sheriff Sandra Hutchens and OC Parks Director Stacy Blackwood will outline what their agencies are doing to prevent wildfires. They will discuss how to fire proof your home, what to look for in reference to suspicious behavior, and what to do in the case of evacuation. We are enlisting the community to be the "eyes and ears" in preventing wildfires. Fire is a severe hazard for those communities that are built close to nature and residents need to be involved in order to prevent future blazes. Working together with partners and residents are among our best prevention tools. We want "would-be" arsonists to know that they will be seen. There will be LIVE demonstrations of an OCFA Hand Crew cutting line and an engine crew spraying water; agency helicopters conducting water drops as well as showing video downlink from their helicopter, which is a valuable resource on wildfires. Agency command trailers, engines, patrol vehicles will be on display. The American Red Cross, OC Animal Care, OCTA and the Irvine Ranch Conservancy will also be on site with informational booths.

When: **Wednesday, May 7 @ 10:00 a.m.**
Staging begins at 9:30 a.m.

Where: **Peters Canyon Regional Park (South)**
Intersection of **Peter's Canyon** & **Silverado Terrace**
Thomas Bros Map (*North Tustin – City of Orange Border*)

Photo, Video & Interview Opportunities Available

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