



NEWPORT BEACH



FIRE

CLASS 1

NEWPORT BEACH JUNIOR LIFEGUARD



2024 ANNUAL REPORT





10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF BEN CARLSON'S LAST RESCUE

Ten years ago, at the end of a busy Fourth of July weekend, Newport Beach was marked by warm weather, large surf, and huge crowds. Newport Beach Lifeguards made 562 rescues that holiday weekend, with 278 of those rescues occurring on July 6 alone.

At 5:15 p.m. on July 6, lifeguards Ben Carlson and Gary Conwell were patrolling the waters beyond the rough conditions on Sea Watch II, a NBLG rescue boat, when they identified a swimmer in distress. Ben jumped from the boat, swam to the man, and began to swim him back to the boat when a set of waves came through. The swimmer made it to safety, but Ben was not able to be located.

A three-hour search was initiated involving multiple Lifeguard, Fire, and Police agencies. At 8 p.m., Ben's body was found more than half a mile away from where he went deckhand off. Newport Beach Paramedics transported him to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased. Ben was the first Newport Beach Lifeguard to die in the line of duty since the department was founded in 1923.

Ben, who was 32, had served as a lifeguard for over 15 years. He was a skilled waterman, having surfed big waves around the world. He was also a former Division 1 water polo player at UC Irvine and a competitive swimmer. Ben's love for the ocean was passed down from his family, who introduced him to the water early on.

In memory of Ben, a statue was placed in Newport Beach McFadden Square, funded by the Ben Carlson Memorial & Scholarship Foundation, a group of family, friends, and fellow lifeguards who wanted to honor his legacy. The foundation continues to support scholarships and safety initiatives to protect both lifeguards and the public.

Now, 10 years later, the community still remembers Ben's sacrifice. The Foundation's work continues, keeping his spirit alive by helping others and improving ocean safety.



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MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide all risk services to our community by protecting life, property, and the environment through prevention, training, education, and response.

Established in 1911, the Newport Beach Fire Department (NBFD) is a 24/7, 365 days-a-year provider of fire suppression, fire prevention, lifeguard services and emergency medical services. NBFD takes pride in serving the community with commitment, dedication, and honor.

VALUES



RESILIENCE



INTEGRITY



TEAMWORK



HONOR



RESPECT



COMPASSION



HEALTH



INNOVATION

Safety, Service, Professionalism

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

It is with great pride and commitment that we present the accomplishments and milestones achieved by the Newport Beach Fire Department from January 2024 through February 2025. Our department continues to strengthen its mission of protecting lives, property, and the environment, while delivering high-quality emergency response and prevention services to the community we serve.

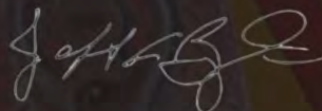
Over the past year, we have significantly enhanced our programs and services across multiple divisions. Notable accomplishments include the revitalization of our CERT program, which added 200 new volunteers, expanded its reach to local high schools through the Teen CERT program, and ensured City employees were re-engaged in emergency response training. Additionally, our EMS Division achieved an outstanding 98% customer satisfaction rating, and our Fire Operations Division proudly received the prestigious CLASS 1 ISO designation—an achievement that reflects the hard work and dedication of our team in providing exceptional service to our residents.

Our Fire Prevention Division demonstrated exceptional proactive measures, securing a \$450K CalFire grant to reduce wildfire hazards in Buck Gully and implementing innovative AI camera technology with UCSD to improve fire detection. These initiatives complement our continued efforts to collaborate with homeowners' associations and maintain full compliance with state-mandated fire safety inspections.

In Lifeguard Operations, our team has excelled in ocean safety, rescuing over 3,000 individuals and preventing 51,721 potential fatalities. The opening of the Junior Lifeguard Building and the successful 40th anniversary celebration of the Junior Lifeguard program further showcase our commitment to youth education and safety.

The work achieved this year could not have been possible without the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners. As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to provide the highest level of service to our community, strengthening our response capabilities, prevention efforts, and community engagement.

We are excited to continue building on these successes and embrace new challenges as we move forward into 2025.



JEFF G. BOYLES
FIRE CHIEF



ABOUT THE CITY

The City of Newport Beach was incorporated on September 1, 1906 and in 1954, adopted a Charter that has been amended and revised over time. The City operates under a Council-Manager form of government with the City Manager and a seven seat City Council consisting of a mayor and six councilmembers. The City serves a population of approximately 86,000 residents and an area of 59.92-square-miles, a 21-square-mile harbor area, and 8 miles of coastal beaches. Up to 8 million beachgoers and visitors are received annually. The City continuously provides its residents and visitors with a full range of high quality municipal services, including public safety through its Police and Fire Departments.



CITY COUNCIL



Joe Stapleton
District 1 - 2025 Mayor



Michelle Barto
District 2 - Councilmember
*Newly Elected 2024



Erik Weigand
District 3 - Councilmember



Robyn Grant
District 4 - Councilmember



Noah Blom
District 5 - Councilmember



Lauren Klejman
District 6 - 2025 Mayor Pro Tem



Sara J. Weber
District 7 - Councilmember
*Newly Elected 2024



William O'Neill
Past Newport Beach Mayor



Brad Avery
District 2 - Councilmember
Past Newport Beach Councilmember

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

JEFF BOYLES

Fire Chief

**Assistant Chief
Fire Operations**

Battalion Chief
A Shift

Captains (10)
Engineers (10)
Firefighter-Paramedics (17)
Firefighters (2)

Battalion Chief
B Shift

Captains (10)
Engineers (10)
Firefighter-Paramedics (17)
Firefighters (2)

Battalion Chief
C Shift

Captains (10)
Engineers (10)
Firefighter-Paramedics (17)
Firefighters (2)

EMS Division Chief

EMS Captain

Contractors
Medical Director
Nurse Educator / Quality
Improvement

Training Battalion Chief
and Safety Officer

Training Captain
and Safety Officer

**Administrative
Manager**

Administrative
Support Services
Administrative Assistant
to the Fire Chief

EMS Support
Department Assistant

Strategic Support
Services
Asst. Management Analyst

Senior Fiscal Clerk

Community Relations &
CERT Program
Fire Services Coordinator

Fire Facilities &
Support Services
Fire Services Coordinator

Support Services Aide (2 PT)

Fire Marshal

Plan Check Services
Wildlands
Deputy Fire Marshal(2)

Senior Fire Inspector (3)

**Assistant Chief
Lifeguard
Operations**

Department Assistant

Battalion Chief

Lifeguard Captains (4)

Lifeguard Officer PT

Ocean Lifeguards (~80)

Battalion Chief

Lifeguard Captains (4)

Lifeguard Officer PT

Ocean Lifeguards (~80)

Training and Junior
Lifeguard Captain

Lifeguard Officer PT

Recreation Coordinator

Ocean Lifeguards (~60)



Safety, Service, Professionalism

TOTAL SWORN PERSONNEL

139*

**Includes 3 P/T Lifeguard Officers*

TOTAL NON - SWORN PERSONNEL

9

TOTAL CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

9*

**Includes 2 Couriers*

SEASONAL LIFEGUARDS

200+

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW



Fire Chief
Jeff Boyles



Asst. Fire Chief
Justin Carr



Fire Marshal
James Gillespie



Asst. Lifeguard Chief
Brian O'Rourke



EMS Division Chief
Kristin Thompson



Fire Admin. Manager
Raymund Reyes

8 FIRE STATIONS

8 ENGINES (STATIONS 1-8)

2 LADDER TRUCKS (STATIONS 2, 3)

4 ALS AMBULANCES (STATIONS 2, 3, 5, 7)

1 TYPE III WILDLAND ENGINE (STATION 8)

1 CAL-OES ENGINE (STATION 6)

3 RESCUE BOATS (LIFEGUARDS)

FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 BUDGET

FIRE ADMINISTRATION

\$1,811,928

FIRE OPERATIONS

\$39,898,496

FIRE PREVENTION

\$1,736,548

COMMUNITY OUTREACH / PREPAREDNESS

\$232,727

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

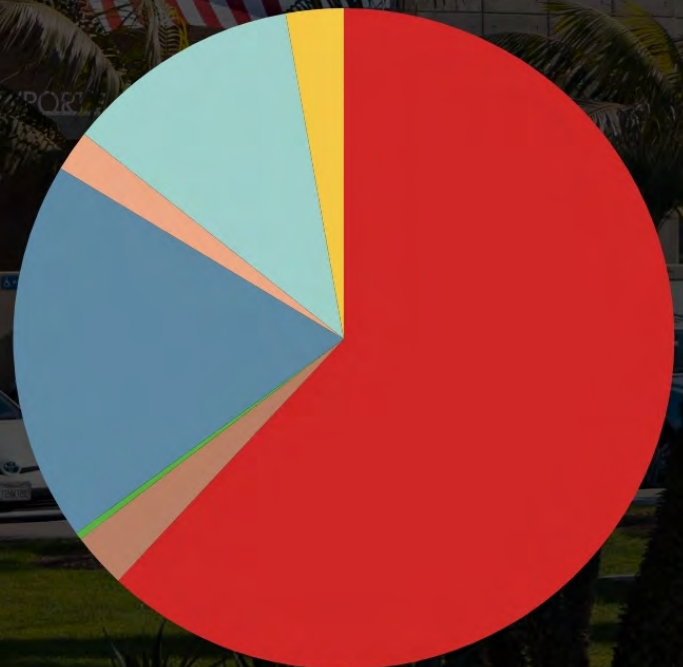
\$11,997,399

JUNIOR LIFEGUARDS

\$1,288,342

LIFEGUARD OPERATIONS

\$7,440,555



GRAND TOTAL
\$64,405,995

FIRE OPERATIONS



2024 TOTAL CALLS

Fire-313
Hazmat-99
Medical-10,659
Other-1,746
Service-1,053
Regional-12

Total-13,882

Data Derived from NBFD Fire RMS

NEWPORT BEACH



FIRE

CLASS 1

Notable Upgrades



In 2024, the Newport Beach Fire Department achieved the prestigious Class 1 rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO), placing it among the top 1.3% of fire departments nationwide and one of only 45 in California to receive this distinction. This elite classification reflects excellence in emergency communications, water supply, staffing, training, fire prevention, and community outreach. The rigorous evaluation process began in April 2022 and concluded in December 2023, underscoring the department's unwavering commitment to public safety and operational excellence. This achievement not only enhances fire protection for residents and businesses but also reinforces Newport Beach's position as a leader in emergency preparedness and response.

FIRE STATION 1 DESIGN APPROVED

- STATION 8
LANDSCAPE
REMODELING

APPARATUS ENHANCEMENTS

- AERIAL TRUCK
RETROFITTING
- RE-CHASSIED
AMBULANCE
- TWO NEW ADMIN
CAPTAINS' PICKUP
TRUCKS
- NEW FIRE CHIEF
TAHOE
- ORDERING OF FOUR
NEW ENGINES
- INSTALLATION OF
NM67 AT STATION 7



Emergency Medical Services

The EMS Division made significant strides in improving EMS services, community engagement, and operational efficiency. EMS surveys achieved a 98% customer satisfaction rate. A thorough review of cardiac arrest cases were conducted to enhance quality care, with a new Cardiac Arrest Save Recognition Program honoring NBFD personnel involved in saving 46 lives who were found to be in cardiac arrest. The department expanded its services by staffing and equipping a fourth frontline ambulance, which completed over 1,500 responses. It also implemented a fully operational EMS warehouse to streamline supply deliveries and reduce waste. Community outreach included offering Sidewalk CPR, Stop the Bleed, and Narcan training at the Newport Beach Pier, while 122 fire and lifeguard personnel completed in-house EMT recertification. The department converted to Red Cross CPR training, saving time and resources, and introduced new EMS equipment, including Obstetric kits for field neonate deliveries. NBFD's EMS Division collaborated with local facilities to enhance patient care and participated in government programs for increased EMS cost recovery. The EMS team completed over 38 hours of training and 18 classes for BLS and ALS skills, ensuring staff readiness for all emergency scenarios.





TRAINING

2024 TOTAL TRAINING
HOURS: 43,379.43

HIGHLIGHTS

**2024 ROOKIE TRAINING
HOURS: 4,920.26**

**EMS TRAINING HOURS:
5,381.02**

**ISO COMPANY TRAINING
HOURS: 2,849**

**ISO DRIVER TRAINING HOURS:
625.5**

**ISO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
TRAINING HOURS: 74.5**

**MONTHLY TRAINING ACTIVITY
HOURS: 2,356**

**ISO OFFICER TRAINING
HOURS: 4,497.5**





FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS
CONSTRUCTION - 1,233
WILDLAND - 354
COMPLAINTS - 19
FIRE CLEARANCES - 28
ANNUALS - 459

SPECIAL EVENTS PROCESSED
481

CONSTRUCTION PLAN REVIEWS
2,287

PROJECTS REVIEW REQUESTS
171

ANNUAL OPERATIONS
INSPECTIONS - 751

FIRE PREVENTION

LIFEGUARD OPERATIONS

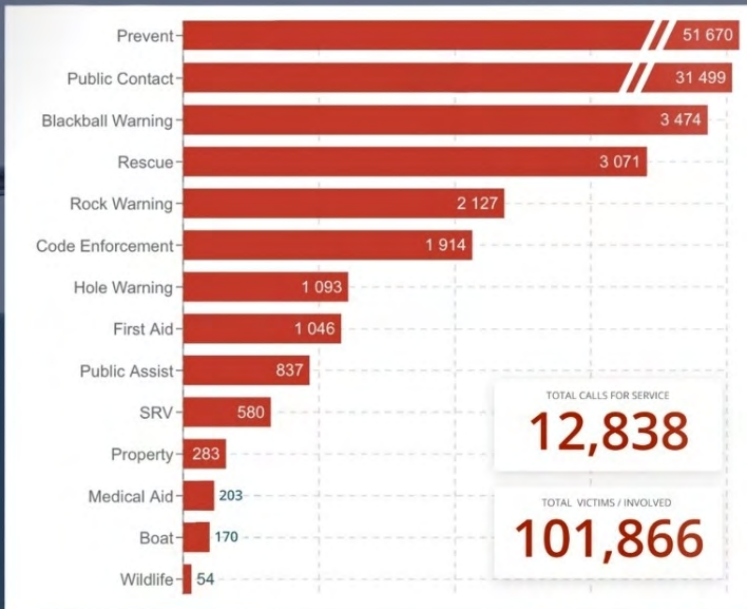


- Hired 27 new Lifeguard I trainees through the 2024 Basic Lifeguard Academy
- Promoted 11 seasonal lifeguards to Lifeguard II
- Conducted six advanced regional trainings: sand entrapment, beach driving, Rescue Watercraft surfline operations, vessel safety, rock rescue, and drone operations
- Delivered community education programs that included:
 - Sidewalk CPR at Newport Beach Pier
 - CPR in the schools at Newport Harbor and Corona del Mar High Schools
 - SALT courses for OCC surf classes and the Newport Beach Police Department



LIFEGUARD STATISTICS

2024 STATISTICS



TOTAL BEACH ATTENDANCE:

8,513,170

FATALITIES:

0

July 4-7

- 807 Rescues
- 12,423 prevents
- 30 Medical Aids

August 8-10. Tropical Storms Emilia & Fabio

- 241 Rescues
- 3,829 Prevents
- 8 Medical Aids



JUNIOR LIFEGUARDS



1,430 PARTICIPANTS

**15 RECIPIENTS OF THE
NEWPORT BEACH JUNIOR
LIFEGUARD SCHOLARSHIP
FUND**

**ESTIMATED 1,200 MONSTER
MILE PARTICIPANTS**



**~FOUNDED IN 1984, ON THE PRINCIPLES
OF OCEAN AND WATER SAFETY**





**NEWPORT BEACH
FIREFIGHTERS**



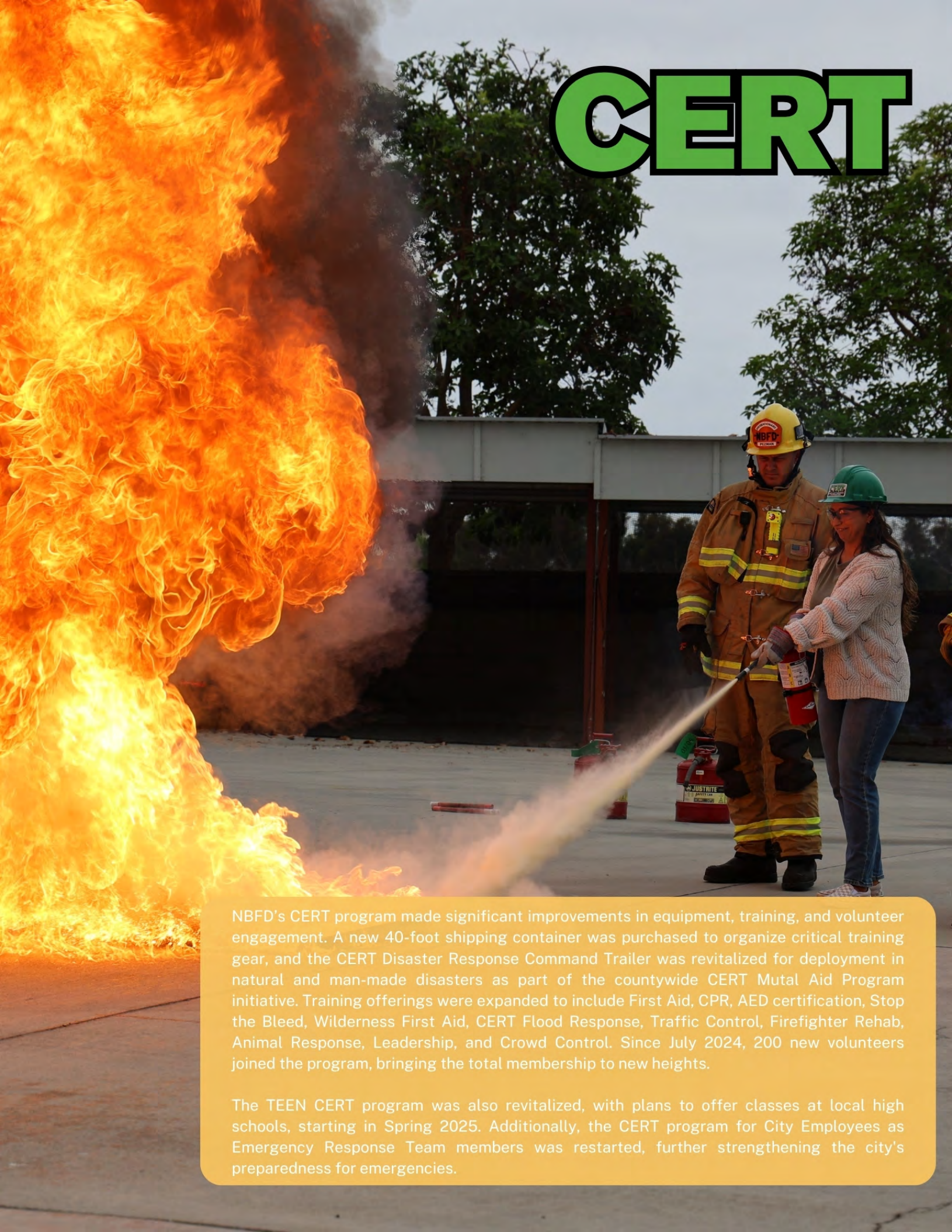
NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPT FOUNDATION

The Official Non-Profit of the Newport Beach Fire Department

Est. 2024

THE NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT FOUNDATION (NBFD FOUNDATION) IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING THE CITY'S FIRE FIRST RESPONDERS WHO SAFEGUARD THE COMMUNITY WITH COURAGE AND EXPERTISE. THROUGH FUNDING FOR ADVANCED TRAINING, STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT, AND HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAMS, THE FOUNDATION ENSURES THE DEPARTMENT'S PERSONNEL ARE WELL-PREPARED AND SUPPORTED IN THEIR VITAL ROLES. ADDITIONALLY, THE FOUNDATION EXTENDS ITS SUPPORT TO THE FAMILIES OF OUR FIRE PERSONNEL, AND PROMOTES PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION INITIATIVES.

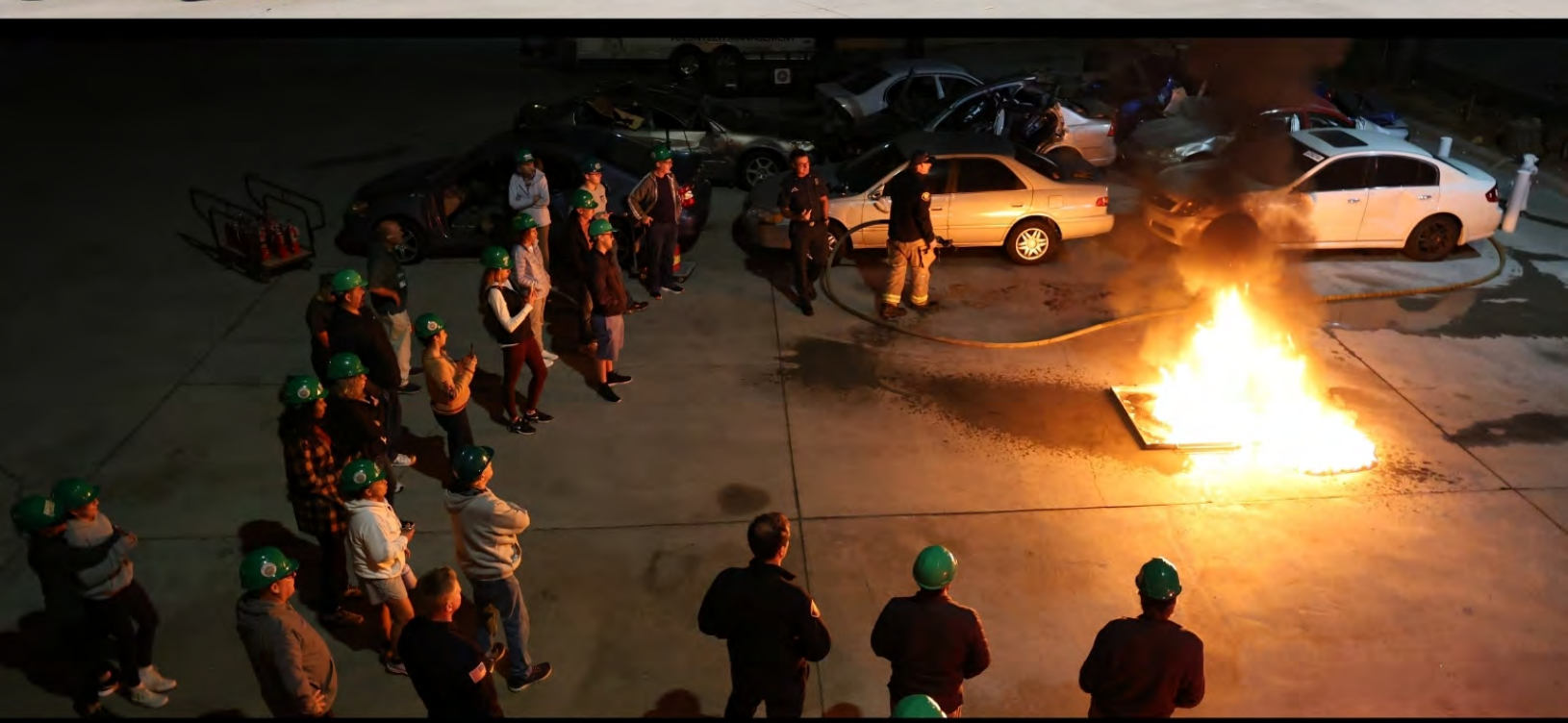




CERT

NBFD's CERT program made significant improvements in equipment, training, and volunteer engagement. A new 40-foot shipping container was purchased to organize critical training gear, and the CERT Disaster Response Command Trailer was revitalized for deployment in natural and man-made disasters as part of the countywide CERT Mutual Aid Program initiative. Training offerings were expanded to include First Aid, CPR, AED certification, Stop the Bleed, Wilderness First Aid, CERT Flood Response, Traffic Control, Firefighter Rehab, Animal Response, Leadership, and Crowd Control. Since July 2024, 200 new volunteers joined the program, bringing the total membership to new heights.

The TEEN CERT program was also revitalized, with plans to offer classes at local high schools, starting in Spring 2025. Additionally, the CERT program for City Employees as Emergency Response Team members was restarted, further strengthening the city's preparedness for emergencies.



CADET PROGRAM



The Newport Beach Fire Department Cadet Program achieved several key milestones. Three Cadets successfully completed the Santa Ana Fire Academy and are advancing through the hiring process, with some already receiving job offers. A partnership with UCI now allows Cadets to earn academic credit for their participation through a registered Field Study program. Six Cadets competed in the CTEX Fire Cadet Muster, supported by a donated van rental from the Kevin Woyjeck Foundation. The program also hosted its own 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at 620 Newport Center in collaboration with The Irvine Company. Cadets gained hands-on experience through busy summer ride-alongs, supported numerous community events, and participated in training such as the OCFA S-131 Wildland Fire Fighter course. The department is developing a sponsorship program to assist Cadets with future academies and paramedic school, and provided support to OCFA's Wildland Cadet training. The year concluded with the first-ever Fire Cadet Family Day, celebrating Cadet accomplishments with strong support from the Fire Association.



NOTABLE EVENTS



NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO A VEHICLE IN THE WATER AT CORONA DEL MAR MAIN BEACH. NBPD OFFICERS BRAVELY RESCUED ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM THE SURF, WITH NBFD CREWS AND LIFEGUARD OPERATIONS PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE AND SCENE SUPPORT. PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTED IN REMOVING THE VEHICLE FROM THE SURFLINE. THE SWIFT, COORDINATED RESPONSE ENSURED THE PATIENT'S SAFETY AND SHOWCASED EXCEPTIONAL TEAMWORK UNDER CHALLENGING CONDITIONS.



NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT ACTIVELY SUPPORTED FIREFIGHTING EFFORTS AT TWO MAJOR WILDFIRES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

ENGINE 368 WAS DEPLOYED FROM NEWPORT COAST FIRE STATION TO ASSIST WITH THE AIRPORT FIRE IN TRABUCO CANYON. ADDITIONALLY, ONE OF OUR CHIEF OFFICERS WAS DEPLOYED AS A SAFETY OFFICER ON THE LINE FIRE IN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY.

****AIRPORT FIRE, ORANGE COUNTY CA***

***AIRPORT FIRE, ORANGE COUNTY CA**



***LINE FIRE,
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CA**



***PARK FIRE, BUTTE AND TEHAMA
COUNTIES**

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

PERSONNEL OF THE YEAR

- SEASONAL LIFEGUARD – BRENDAN RAFFERTY, SEASONAL LIFEGUARD II
- CIVILIAN – MELISSA MILES, FIRE SERVICES COORDINATOR
- LIFEGUARD SUPERVISOR – GAVIN WRIGHT, CAPTAIN
- FIREFIGHTER – CORY FREEMAN, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

LIFESAVING AWARD – CARDIAC ARREST

- CASEY BLYTHE, CAPTAIN
- JEFFREY STRIBLING, ENGINEER
- BRYCE ANDERSON, ENGINEER
- ERIC SANCHEZ, FIREFIGHTER
- CAMERON HUTZLER, CAPTAIN
- ERIN ALEXANDER, ENGINEER
- BRETT ENGLAND, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC
- DUSTIN SUPPE, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC
- MICHAEL KIMOTO, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

LIFESAVING AWARD – STABBING ON BALBOA BLVD

- ROBERT BINKERD, ENGINEER
- BRYAN COWLES, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC
- ANTHONY GALAVIZ, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC
- JAMES O'BRIEN, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

LETTER OF COMMENDATION – BALBOA BLVD STRUCTURE FIRE

- ANDY JANIS, CAPTAIN

AWARD OF MERIT – PREVENTED SAILBOAT COLLISION

- NICHOLAAS BALJEU, SEASONAL LIFEGUARD II
- BRENDAN RAFFERTY, SEASONAL LIFEGUARD II

LIFESAVING AWARD – INFLIGHT MEDICAL EMERGENCY

- ERIN ALEXANDER, ENGINEER

AWARD OF MERIT – PARK FIRE ROLLOVER SAVE

- JEFF BOGIN, ENGINEER

UNIT CITATION – FALL THROUGH GLASS DOOR

- JAVIER GONZALEZ, CAPTAIN
- JEFF TERZO, ENGINEER
- JOE LASER, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC
- BRETT FINICLE, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC
- MICHAEL PENA, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

AWARD OF MERIT – OFF DUTY TRAFFIC COLLISION

- MIKE ZACCARO, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

MERITORIOUS ACT

- CASH BORGGREVE, SEASONAL LIFEGUARD I

UNIT CITATION – MAIN STREET STRUCTURE FIRE

- ANDY JANIS, CAPTAIN
- TRAVIS SHOOK, ENGINEER
- JASON LEFTIGE, FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC

MEDAL OF VALOR

- JAKE PHILPOT, SEASONAL LIFEGUARD II





NBFD HONOR GUARD

FOUNDING MEMBERS:

ERIN ALEXANDER
JIM BOLAND
RYAN CALLINAN
CHAD DUNCAN
JAVIER GONZALEZ
CAMERON HUTZLER
DLYAN NOWAKOWSKI

NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT STATIONS

BALBOA FIRE STATION #1
110 E. BALBOA BOULEVARD

CORONA DEL MAR FIRE STATION #5
410 MARIGOLD AVENUE

PENINSULA FIRE STATION #2
2807 NEWPORT BOULEVARD

MARINERS FIRE STATION #6
1348 IRVINE AVENUE

FASHION ISLAND FIRE STATION #3
868 SANTA BARBARA DRIVE

SANTA ANA HEIGHTS FIRE STATION #7
20401 ACACIA STREET

BALBOA ISLAND FIRE STATION #4
124 MARINE AVENUE

NEWPORT COAST FIRE STATION #8
6502 RIDGE PARK ROAD

*Follow
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