

**LAFD****SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT SUMMARY****Emergency Public Information Center**

JUN 5 2007

BFC 07-041

Date Printed 5/21/2007

5/14/2007 TO 5/21/2007

INCIDENT DATE	INC. TIME	ADDRESS	COUNCIL	INCIDENT TYPE	F.S.	FIRE COMPANIES	TOTAL F/F'S	TOTAL R.A.S	OUTSIDE AGENCIES	F/F INJURIES	CIV. FATALITY	DOLLAR LOSS	TIME TO CONTROL
5/14/2007	2:05 PM	6400 N Laurel Canyon Blvd	2	Hazardous Material Investigation	89	8	73	10		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 55 min.
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	0597	0								3 hours, 29 min.			

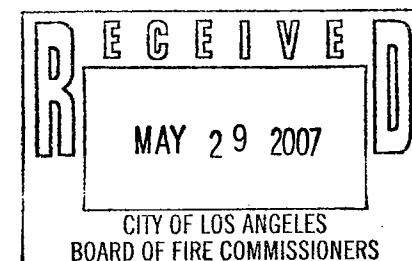
**ROOFING OPERATION SPURS HAZMAT INVESTIGATION**

On Monday, May 14, 2007 at 2:05 PM, 8 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 10 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Hazardous Materials Task Force, 3 EMS Battalion Captains, 2 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams and 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 73 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel under the direction of Acting Assistant Chief Jeffrey Marcus responded to a Hazardous Materials Investigation at 6400 Laurel Canyon Boulevard in North Hollywood. Responding to reports of one or more persons ill in a six-story office building, Los Angeles Firefighters arrived quickly at the northeast corner of Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Victory Boulevard to discover dozens of occupants leaving the structure unaided in a calm and orderly fashion. Firefighters promptly took control of occupant egress, guiding evacuees toward a parking lot to the north and preparing to isolate symptomatic persons from other bystanders. Systematically queried by Firefighters, none of the evacuees displayed priority symptoms. The few with mild respiratory irritation or nausea described their symptoms as abated or lessened upon fresh air exposure. As Police and City Department of Transportation officials arrived to control bystanders and traffic, the building perimeter was more thoroughly assessed. It was during this assessment that a low-profile roofing operation was discovered atop the modern sealed office building. Firefighters soon surmised that crews had been using a solvent-based sealer atop the building in preparation for roof repair, when the fumes from that product were drawn into a ventilation portal, filling the building with an acrid odor. With triage and medical assessment of many of the more than 150 building occupants underway, Fire Department assets, including an LAFD Hazardous Materials Task Force assembled within a perimeter, as preparations were made for decontamination and medical treatment. Working in close consultation with the building engineer and roofing contractor, Firefighters secured the lobby and key building systems, including the stairwells of the modern sealed office building. With support personnel readily staged to assist them, a highly-trained LAFD Hazardous Materials team surveyed all six floors of the building with sophisticated sensing devices, ultimately determining the odor to be from the roofing solvent. As the Haz-Mat team continued its effort, LAFD Paramedics assessed 22 adult office workers for sundry complaints, including nausea, headaches and general malaise. Of the 22, eleven - 10 in good condition and 1 'fair', were transported by ambulance to area hospitals for further medical evaluation. There were no Firefighter injuries. Following source determination, Firefighters denied occupant reentry, sending workers home, as they labored with building officials for nearly three hours to fully ventilate fumes from the building. Site control was soon thereafter transferred to the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Health Hazardous Materials Division and building management, who anticipated full occupant access the following day.

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5/15/2007	3:06 AM	11739 W Laurelwood Dr	2	Structure Fire	86	6	38	2		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	In Progress
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	0077	0								In Progress			

**HILLTOP HOME UNDER CONSTRUCTION GOES UP IN FLAMES**

On Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 3:06 AM, 6 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 2 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Arson Unit, 1 EMS Battalion Captain and 1 Battalion Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 38 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel under the direction of Battalion Chief Peter Benesch, responded to a Structure Fire at 11739 W Laurelwood Drive in Studio City.



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5/15/2007	6:18 PM	10000 W. Foothill	2	Structure Fire	24	5	40	3		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 33 min.
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	0869	0								10 hours, 12 min.			
		Shadow Hills/Sunland											

**HOUSE OF WORSHIP LOSES MODULAR OFFICE BUILDING IN SUNLAND FIRE**

On Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 6:18 PM, 5 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 3 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 2 Arson Units, 1 Hazardous Materials Team, 1 EMS Battalion Captain, 1 Battalion Chief Officer Command Team and an investigator from the House of Worship Task Force all under the direction of Battalion Chief Michael Bowman responded to a Structure Fire at 10000 W. Foothill in the Shadow Hills/Sunland area.

Engine 24 communicated to the OCD Dispatch Center, that they were on the scene of a church building with heavy smoke and fire showing from the rear of the structure. Upon further investigation, the Firefighters found (2) one story modular type office bungalows, approximately 60' x 20' each, located behind the All Nations Church. One of the office buildings was fully involved with flames and the second structure had flame impingement from an outside fire, with possible extension into the structures interior.

Firefighters aggressively advanced hose-lines, a knockdown was called in approximately 33 minutes and the fire was confined to the two modular structures. There was one civilian injury reported, a 24 year old male with a 2" laceration to the right forearm was assessed and transported to an area hospital. The cause of the evening fire is undetermined at this time, pending the investigation of the House of Worship Task Force and the Arson unit. A "mini-media" center was established to address any questions from the media regarding the incident.

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5/21/2007	12:08 PM	9800 N San Fernando Rd	6	Train vs. Vehicle	98	4	40	5		0	1	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 22 min.
	INC. #									INCIDENT DURATION			
	0523	0								1 hour, 1 minute			

**ONE DEAD, ONE INJURED IN PACOIMA CAR-TRAIN COLLISION**

On Monday, May 21, 2007 at 12:08 PM, 4 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 5 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Heavy Rescue, 1 Urban Search and Rescue Unit, 2 EMS Battalion Captains and 1 Battalion Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 40 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel under the direction of Battalion Chief Ronnie Villanueva responded to a Train vs. Vehicle Collision near 9800 San Fernando Road in Pacoima. The Lancaster-bound Metrolink commuter train was unable to stop before striking a silver station wagon, which was inexplicably fouling the track at the time of the collision. An adult male occupant of the station wagon, apparently attempting to exit the vehicle, was ejected or struck by that car following the impact. He sustained traumatic injuries incompatible with life, and was declared deceased at the scene. A 24 year-old occupant of the station wagon was briefly trapped in the wreckage before being rescued by Firefighters, who used hydraulic prying tools to free her. She was transported to Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in serious but stable condition. The train remained on the tracks, and no other injuries were reported. The cause of this incident remains under investigation by Los Angeles Police Officers and Los Angeles Sheriff's Deputies, who provide contract policing services to the Southern California Regional Rail Authority. A positive identification of the decedent, as well as the exact cause, time and manner of his death will be determined by the Coroner's Office.

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5/22/2007	11:38 PM	4024 S. Arlington Av.	8	MULTI-CASUALTY TA	34	3	36	8		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	1 hour, 18 min.
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	1176	0								1 hour, 18 min.			

**BUS VS AUTO IN LEIMERT PARK LEAVES 14 INJURED, 2 LISTED CRITICAL**

On Tuesday, May 22, 2007 at 11:38 PM, 3 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 8 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 3 EMS Battalion Captains, 1 Battalion Chief Officer Command Team, DOT, DWP, Building & Safety Inspector, LAPD and the Sheriff's all under the direction of Battalion Chief Craig Yoder responded to a Multi-casualty Ta at 4024 S. Arlington Av. in the Leimert Park Area.

The men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department responded to a late night incident and arrived on the scene of a multi-patient traffic accident involving a bus and a small sedan. A quick and thorough assessment using the START system of triage, found 14 patients, 2 were listed in critical condition. The Medical Alert Center was alerted of the multi-patient transport possibility.

The two critical female patients in the small sedan, (1) pregnant passenger approximately 30 years old and the driver approximately 20 years old, were "T-boned" by the bus causing severe passenger space intrusion and totaling the vehicle. Both women had utilized seat belts and the vehicle's air bags were deployed, possibly saving their lives.

The remaining patients were onboard the bus, sustaining minor injuries and transported to several area hospitals.

The cause of the incident is under investigation by the Los Angeles Police and the L.A. County Sheriff's office.

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5/23/2007	12:07 AM	16237 W. Ventura Bl.	5	FIRE	83	20	138	9		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 15 min.
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	0001	0								In Progress			

**CATASTROPHIC INCIDENT AVERTED OFF-LOADING LIQUID OXYGEN**

On Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 0:07 AM, 20 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 9 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Arson Unit, 1 Urban Search and Rescue Unit, 1 Hazardous Materials Team, 3 EMS Battalion Captains, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams, 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, DOT and LAPD all under the direction of Battalion Chief Jack Wise responded to a Fire at 16237 W. Ventura Bl. in the Encino Hills area.

Responding to an early morning 911 call of a reported structure fire at Encino Hospital, Fire Department resources arrived on scene to find a tanker truck which had been in the process of off-loading liquid oxygen, with fire in the transfer equipment area. The quick action of the men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department in extinguishing the fire in 15 minutes, averted compromising the integrity of the tanker which would have caused a catastrophic incident. The tanker was loaded with approximately 560,000 cubic feet of the liquified gas.

With a quick knockdown on the fire, the incident was quickly downgraded. With information provided by the driver, the valves to the tanker pump area were shut down. Further investigation of the incident utilizing Squad 70, found that the tanker was still leaking due to damaged hoses. A need to have the remainder of the gas off-loaded was considered.

The manufacturer was contacted and requested assistance in stabilizing the tanker leak, loading the rig onto a flatbed and transporting to Woodley Park. Once all electrical ignition sources were shut down and the tanker deemed safe, agency cooperation commenced.

No injuries were reported, and no evacuation was called. Ventura Boulevard will be shut down during Fire Department operations.

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5/23/2007	2:35 PM	1901 W Venice Blvd	1	Greater Alarm Structure Fire	13	13	96	3		0	0	\$145,000	0 hours, 17 min.
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	0614	MID-CITY								0			3 hours, 12 min.

**BLAZE ERUPTS IN HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

On Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 2:35 PM, 13 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 3 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 3 Arson Units, 2 Urban Search and Rescue Units, 1 Hazardous Materials Team, 2 EMS Battalion Captains, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams and 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 96 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel under the direction of Battalion Chief John Vidovich, responded to a Greater Alarm Structure Fire at 1901 Venice Boulevard in the Mid-City area of Los Angeles. Alerted via an automatic fire alarm, Firefighters arrived quickly to discover smoke showing from the top floor of a U-shaped three-story administration building at Loyola High School. Though occupants had self-evacuated in response to the audible fire alarm and staff direction at the Catholic Jesuit preparatory school, Firefighters launched systematic search and salvage efforts on all floors in the northwest wing of the structure, as their colleagues extended handlines to do battle with well-entrenched fire in a third floor office that was not directly protected by fire sprinklers. The flames, held in check by the fire sprinklers in an adjacent hallway, were skillfully confined to the room of origin by Firefighters, who fully extinguished the blaze in just 17 minutes. There were no injuries. Swift and well-coordinated salvage efforts in a second floor library as well as a hallway and two rooms on the third floor, limited fire and collateral damage to only \$145,000 (\$125,000 structure & \$20,000 contents). The cause of the fire is categorized as accidental, and attributed to a candle toppled by a Priest.

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5/23/2007	3:07 PM	11000 Oxnard St	2	TRENCH RESCUE	60	11	89	4		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	1 hour, 37 min.
	INC. #									INCIDENT DURATION			
	0661	0								9 hours, 32 min.			

***FIREFIGHTERS RESCUE PAIR FROM NORTH HOLLYWOOD TRENCH***

On Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 3:07 PM, 11 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 4 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Heavy Rescue, 2 Urban Search and Rescue Units, 1 Rehab Unit, 1 Hazardous Materials Squad, 2 EMS Battalion Captains, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams, the LAFD Tractor Company, Medical Director and 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 89 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel under the direction of Assistant Chief Greg West, responded to a Trench Rescue at 11000 Oxnard Street in North Hollywood. Firefighters arrived quickly to find and assist Los Angeles Police Officers in their successful rope rescue of the first of two men trapped at a commercial construction site. The men had apparently been working in conjunction with a backhoe to create a 6' wide x 20' long x 15' deep excavation in soft and sandy soil to accommodate structural steel support. It was not immediately evident how, when or why the trapped pair had entered the trench, or why the soil gave way. Police Officers preceded Firefighters when they were erroneously summoned to investigate a disturbance involving "men with shovels" at the construction site, only to discover a half-dozen or more adult males frantically working to save their co-workers. The 22 year-old worker first pulled free with the worksite rope had been only lightly trapped - and though clearly shaken, had no obvious injuries. He was transported by LAFD ambulance in good condition to the Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank. As specialized LAFD resources amassed from across the City, Neighborhood Firefighters established voice and soon thereafter physical contact with a 40 year-old male, who was initially trapped to his shoulders. The man was conscious but agitated, trapped more than a dozen feet below ground level in a nearly upright position, as Firefighters quickly went to work. The nearby major street was closed to all vehicle traffic and additional LAFD crews staged at a distance as a perimeter was secured to minimize vibration and soil movement. With trench edge protection and speed shoring of dimensional lumber and plywood quickly applied, Firefighters began initial confined space operations, working at first with the men's co-workers to remove soil with shovels from the western perimeter, and then in a strategic fashion, used hand tools to remove the first of hundreds of pounds of loose, sandy soil from near the victim's upper body. A rescue harness and firefighter helmet were placed on the man, and an oxygen mask applied, as confined-space trained Firefighter/Paramedics established an intravenous line. A full complement of LAFD Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) personnel were soon on scene to allow for scheduled rotation of staff and equipment. Firefighters skillfully used a high-velocity pneumatic hand held 'Air Knife' tool attached to a soil vacuum to move small volumes of dirt away in a surgical fashion, and later hastened those efforts with a mobile vacuum truck supplied by the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. The man was freed, and gently hoisted to ground level by an LAFD aerial ladder a little more than 90 minutes after his ordeal began. In fair condition with no obvious injuries, he was transported by LAFD ambulance to the Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in Mission Hills. No other injuries were reported. Questions regarding the presence, need or injured men's use of safety equipment and approved worksite procedures remain within the purview of Cal-OSHA officials.

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5/24/2007	3:27 PM	25820 S. Vermont Av.	15	Animal Assist	85	2	14	1		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 53 min.
	INC. #									INCIDENT DURATION			
	0814	0								0 hours, 53 min.			

**CHICKEN + DUCT TAPE = REGGIE**

On Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 3:27 PM, 2 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 1 LAFD Rescue Ambulance, 1 Battalion Chief Officer Command Team, Park Rangers, Animal Regulation, Rec and Parks, Fish and Game and Councilwoman Hahn, all responded to an Animal Assist at 25820 S. Vermont Av. in the Harbor City area.

Apparently, an Alligator had been seen sunbathing in a cordoned off area of the Ken Mallory Regional Park over the last three weeks. The "gator" had no intentions of leaving this "well catered" area, today, dining on a whole chicken. Joggers found the "gator" sunning after the exquisite meal, and put in a call to the office of Janice Hahn. Councilwoman Hahn just happened to be meeting with representatives from the Zoo, Animal Regulation and Rec and Parks, discussing the possible capture of "Reggie" the following week! Meeting adjourned! A 911 call was made for the "experts."

All was a buzz at the OCD Dispatch Center after receiving the 911 call to "assist Animal Regulation in the capture of an alligator." Once on scene, Fire Department resources observed two Park Rangers trying to subdue a very large alligator. Calling for the use of technical equipment, a roll of duct tape, the animals snout and tail were secured, much to his disapproval. With much hissing, most likely upset for leaving the other half of that chicken, the "gator" was packaged up utilizing the durable plastic SKED stretcher, part of the SKED rescue system for confined space or technical rescues. Fire personnel facilitated the transport of the alligator to the Animal Regulation vehicle, which then transported him to the L.A. Zoo. Having reached Rock Star status, "Reggie" arrived at the L.A. Zoo, complete with cheering section and entourage.

Who needs "alligator wranglers" and so called "gator experts" to capture "Reggie" when you have the men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department and also save a couple bucks!

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5/26/2007	2:32 AM	21000 W. Devonshire St.	12	Major Emergency Structure Fire	107	16	109	4		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 45 min.
	INC. #	F/F FATALITY								INCIDENT DURATION			
	0104	0								In Progress			

**MAJOR EMERGENCY STRUCTURE FIRE IN CHATSWORTH STRIP MALL**

On Saturday, May 26, 2007 at 2:32 AM, 16 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 4 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Arson Unit, 1 Urban Search and Rescue Group, 1 Hazardous Materials Team, Emergency Air, 2 EMS Battalion Captains, 4 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams and 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, all under the direction of Assistant Chief Curtis James responded to a Major Emergency Structure Fire at 21000 W. Devonshire St. in the Chatsworth/Northridge area.

Firefighters responding from their nearby fire station, arrived on scene of a 75' x75' two story strip mall, the Devonshire Center Complex, with one unit on the second floor well involved. With a major concern for the other occupancies in the strip mall, firefighters began an aggressive and well coordinated defensive attack with handlines, vertical ventilation and salvage to the occupancies located on the lower level.

During firefighting operations, fire traveled through the mansard and attic spaces, weakening a portion of the roof and contributed to a partial roof failure and a part of the mansard collapsed. Firefighter safety was a major concern with the weakened roof which supported 4 large air conditioning units.

With firefighters deployed to the occupancies on each side of the fire unit, the fire was held to the unit of origin and the adjoining occupancies experienced some smoke and water damage. The occupancy located directly underneath the fire occupancy experienced water damage.

It took the approximately 80 men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department approximately 45 minutes to confirm a knockdown. The cause of the fire is undetermined at this time. The preliminary dollar loss is estimated at \$250,000 (\$\*\*\*\*\*, structure, \$\*\*\*\*\* contents). There were no reported injuries.

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5/27/2007	2:21 PM	4602 Brazil St	4	Major Emergency Structure Fire	50	23	147	4		1	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 53 min.
	INC. #									INCIDENT DURATION			
	0613	0								5 hours, 35 min.			

**FIRE DESTROYS CARS AND VACANT BUILDING IN ATWATER VILLAGE**

On Sunday, May 27, 2007 at 2:21 PM, 23 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 4 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Arson Unit, 2 Urban Search and Rescue Units, 1 Hazardous Materials Squad, 3 EMS Battalion Captains, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams and 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 147 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel, responded to a Major Emergency Structure Fire near 4602 Brazil Street in the Atwater Village area of Los Angeles. The aforementioned LAFD personnel were joined in Automatic Aid by 5 Engine Companies, 1 Truck Company and a Battalion Chief from the neighboring Glendale Fire Department, and 1 Battalion Chief from the nearby Burbank Fire Department. All responders operated under the Unified Command of LAFD Assistant Chief Terrance Manning and Glendale Fire Department Battalion Chief Robert Doyle. First to arrive Los Angeles Firefighters quickly navigated the remote portion of an industrial district to discover a vacant and aging one-story 50' x 100' commercial structure fully involved, with flames extending to vegetation, rubbish and densely stored new vehicles nearby. In a well-coordinated defensive operation, master hose streams were swiftly focused on the decrepit wooden structure, as flames fanned by 10 mile-per-hour winds took hold of unkempt and highly flammable vegetation, including palm trees as much as a quarter-mile away. The wind-driven embers drove fire north and east to the Los Angeles River, as teams of Firefighters worked multiple handlines on the distant flames, paying close heed to a busy adjacent railroad and high-voltage electrical lines above portions of the fire. Simultaneously, their colleagues sought to prevent rapid fire spread among dozens of closely parked vehicles stored bumper-to-bumper near the burning building. Weakened by the blaze, the ramshackle structure collapsed as a total loss. Despite the efforts of Firefighters, a total of 53 new passenger vehicles, including several sedans destined for livery service, were damaged or destroyed by fire. During the intense battle against the flames, one Los Angeles Firefighter sustained a sizeable laceration to his left hand. He was transported in good condition to Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center, where he was treated and released to remain off-duty. No other injuries were reported. Firefighter/Heavy Equipment Operators from the LAFD Tractor Company assisted with the prolonged overhaul of smoldering debris. Monetary loss from the fire is still being tabulated. Though witnesses place fire origin in close proximity to the vacant structure, the specific cause of the blaze remains categorized as "under investigation".

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5/27/2007	3:30 PM	10021 Amanita Ave	2	Brush Fire	74	14	88	2		0	0	Still Being Tabulated	0 hours, 48 min.
	INC. #									INCIDENT DURATION			
	0686	Tujunga								0			3 hours, 31 min.

**SWIFT MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE TACKLES TUJUNGA WILDFIRE**

On Sunday, May 27, 2007 at 3:30 PM, 14 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 2 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 LAFD Brush Patrol, 1 Arson Unit, 2 Helicopters, 1 EMS Battalion Captain, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams and 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, a total of 88 Los Angeles Fire Department personnel, responded to a Greater Alarm Brush Fire near 10021 Amanita Avenue in Tujunga. Because the site was in a Mutual Threat Zone, the aforementioned LAFD responders were joined in Automatic Aid by the Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena Fire Departments, as well as Angeles National Forest Firefighters and the Los Angeles County Fire Department, with all personnel operating under Unified Command. Los Angeles Firefighters arrived first in a period of High Fire Danger to find as much as one acre of medium-to-heavy brush ablaze, being fanned by light winds and threatening several homes. The first arriving Firefighters anchored the flames of the terrain-driven blaze and were soon joined by their ground-based colleagues in flanking the fire as Fire Department helicopters commenced a synchronous barrage of water and foam drops to stem the head of the fire before any structures were damaged. This swift and well-practiced multi-agency effort of more than 100 Firefighters on the ground and in the air limited the fire to two acres. The blaze was extinguished in less than 48 minutes, and an overhaul of the rolling terrain was subsequently accomplished by four Los Angeles County Fire Department handcrews promptly and proactively dispatched to the scene. There were no injuries or formal evacuations. The cause of this fire remains under active investigation.