

UNIFIED



RESPONSE

Area “C” Quarterly Bulletin Winter 2006



Serving the cities of:

*Alhambra, Arcadia, Burbank,
Glendale, Monrovia, Monterey Park,
Pasadena, San Gabriel, San Marino,
Sierra Madre and South Pasadena*

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Coordinator's Update

When the term “Unified Response” was coined several years ago, our intent was very broad yet very specific. Sure, the opportunity to unify Area C responses was on our minds, but more so the obligation and necessity we have as firefighters to cooperatively work together in a seamless way on a “day to day” basis. Benefits of the Unified Response plan are numerous:



- Resources for emergency response will potentially arrive sooner, reducing the likelihood of injuries or fatalities and minimizing damage to property and the environment.
- Cities that currently do not have a ladder truck or specialized units now have automatic access to these resources without the delay previously caused by several layers of notification and approval.
- The opportunity to respond to a larger geographic area provides additional training and experience for those who staff specialized units that are not normally mobilized very often, keeping their skills fresh and well honed.
- Joining 11 fire response jurisdictions into a single regional response zone may increase the likelihood of receiving federal and state grants because shared resources will potentially benefit a much larger area and population.
- And inter-agency communication, training, experience and cooperation will also improve as people and agencies interact more regularly and work side by side to improve public safety.

A Unified Response certainly helps to handle the larger incidents, but the real benefit comes from working together every day, leveraging each other's strengths to better protect our communities while still preserving local autonomy.

Between February and August 2005, the 11 fire agencies of Area C conducted an informal six-month trial to examine the feasibility of changing the way we respond to fire incidents. The trial involved implementing a system in which fire suppression

units from the closest station were dispatched to a fire incident without regard to political jurisdiction, essentially responding as though the 11 cities were a single unified fire agency. Our goals in testing the “automatic aid” concept were to provide:

- Improved fire protection for each agency,
- Increased firefighter safety,
- Fewer and simpler aid agreements to manage, and
- Better utilization of limited fire suppression resources.

The 11 Fire Chiefs deemed the trial successful and agreed to leave the new system in place with minor modifications on an interim basis, pending development of a written agreement. It is now time to put certain key understandings into writing to ensure the continued success of the system, and to potentially expand it to other services in the future.

As the Area “C” Coordinator, I asked our City Attorney to prepare a draft agreement for this Unified Response Automatic Aid System. The draft “Agreement for the Automatic Exchange of Fire Services” was sent out last week. It gives some structure to the system and details some of the more important “understandings” that we have established. It is intended for execution by our respective City Councils. We are hopeful that in early March we can begin the formal approval process...pretty cool.

Another document soon to be forthcoming is the after-action report from the Metrolink train incident of January 26, 2005. We are working closely with LAFD on the report, which will include a detailed analysis and summary of the incident along with recommendations and a plan of action for future disasters of this nature.

A hearty welcome and congratulations to our newest Fire Chief, Tracy Pansini of the Burbank Fire Department (pictured below with his wife, Dana). Chief Pansini is a seasoned veteran, having served in every position within the Burbank Fire Department over the past 26 years. He has a strong operations background that, combined with administrative experience, will serve him well as he assumes this important position as the fifth Fire Chief in Burbank’s history. Chief Pansini is personable, and besides being a great firefighter, he recognizes that our strength and ability are derived through our personnel. He is genuine and goes out of his way to help others. I am excited about working together as we move forward into our “Unified” future. Best wishes to Tracy, his wife, two children and the entire Burbank Fire Family.



The call earlier this week for two Strike Teams from Area C for the Sierra fire in Orange County represented yet another reminder that brush fire season is year-round and we must always be prepared. Santa Ana winds can pick up without much warning this time of year, exacerbating already dry conditions and dramatically increasing potential spread of any brush fires that are not extinguished immediately.

Christopher Gray
Fire Chief
Area “C” Coordinator

View of smoke off the Imperial Highway from the fire in the Anaheim Hills (Francine Orr / LA Times).

RECENT BRUSH FIRE ACTIVITY

Topanga Incident

As a result of the heavy rains last winter, brush growth was unusually lush last year. Thus it came as no surprise when, during a period of brisk Santa Ana winds, a brush fire was reported near the 118 freeway at Topanga Canyon Blvd. the afternoon of September 28. By the time it was fully contained six days later, over 24,000 acres had burned in an area roughly 15 miles long and 7 miles wide. Water-dropping helicopters fought gusts of wind up to 50 mph as they worked to put out the fire.



Damon Winter, LA Times

At its peak, over 3,000 firefighters from 100 agencies were fighting the fire. Firefighting resources included



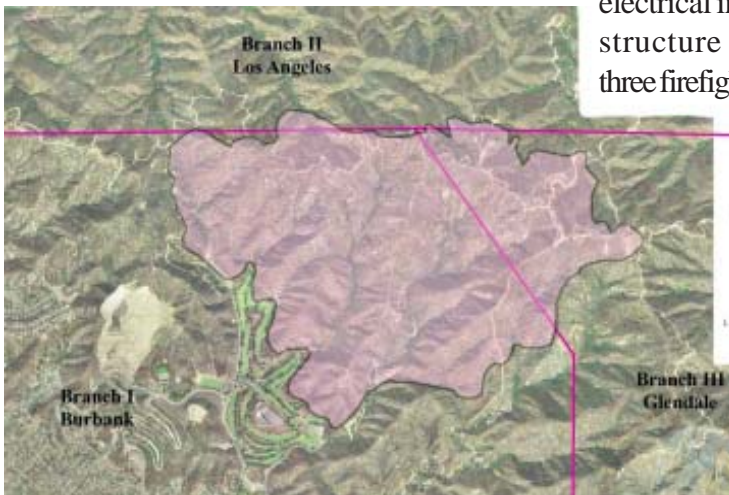
414 engines, 11 helicopters, 6 fixed-wing air tankers, 84 hand crews and 8 water tenders. Area C resources sent to assist included 20 engines, a water tender, and 12 overhead personnel – a total of 93 personnel. Three residences were destroyed in the fire, along with several commercial structures and 35 vehicles. There was no loss of human life, but 13 firefighters were injured. The total fire suppression cost was estimated at \$14.4 million.

Harvard Incident

Just a day after the Topanga incident began, reports started coming in to Verdugo dispatch regarding a brush fire at 1250 Harvard Road, behind Castaways Restaurant in the hills above Burbank. Containment coincided with that of the Topanga fire, October 4, with a total of 1,012 acres burned, but no structures damaged or destroyed. However, there was some damage to



Photo by Robert Navarro



electrical infrastructure and three firefighters

sustained minor injuries. Fire suppression costs were estimated to be over \$2 million. During the peak of the fire, 900 fire personnel were fighting the fire, with 100 engines, 5 helicopters, 2 fixed wing air tankers, 34 hand crews, 8 dozers and 6 water tenders. Area C sent 43 engines, 5 water tenders, 1 truck, 4 rescue ambulances and 8 overhead staff. Valuable assistance was also provided by Verdugo dispatch, Emergency Operations Center staff, and arson investigators, among others.

ALHAMBRA

Population: 90,561

Area: 7.62 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$4,673,119,130

Man Falls 10 Feet Into Pit

In late December 2005, Alhambra Engine 73 and Medic 74 personnel were called to the industrial area of the city, where they found a middle-aged male down inside a dark concrete pit. The man was found kneeling, with compound fractures to both femurs, with bones protruding through his skin and pant legs. His co-worker, who summoned the fire department, held the victim up while waiting for help, to keep pressure off the injured legs.

Apparently the man and a few others had been charged with doing interior renovation work at the vacant building. Upon entering, the victim found the building in darkness, and while walking through, fell more than 10 feet into the unseen and unbarricaded concrete pit.

Captain Dale Brown immediately

called for additional assistance from the truck company and advised Battalion Chief Stedman of the incident. A ladder at the location was immediately used to gain access to the patient. While initial patient care and assessment were being established by the medics, another ladder was retrieved from Engine 73 to help provide access and egress for the patient from the pit.

Chief Stedman and Truck 71 personnel arrived within minutes, and the Stokes basket and necessary ropes and rigging were prepared to extricate the patient from the pit. Paramedics Brad Case and Chris Whalen started an I.V. for the patient and administered morphine for his pain before attempting to move him. He was placed on a backboard and loaded into the Stokes basket, then rescuers lifted and slid him upward along the ladder until he was out of the pit. The patient was transported to the hospital for further treatment.

1983 Alhambra Cadet Retires as Captain

Gilbert Cortez never wanted to be a firefighter. He started attending fire science classes after graduating from high school only because his best friend wanted to, and he didn't want

to do it alone. Gil already had a good job as a machinist in Santa Fe Springs, right next to a fire station.

He became friends with the neighboring firefighters, as their basketball constantly came flying over the wall

that divided the two properties. They steered Gil in the right direction (Rio Hondo) for taking classes. After the first week, his friend dropped out, and Gil was hooked.

Gil attended a nine-month weekend academy (Class 14) at Rio Hondo, and was hired as a Cadet with the Alhambra Fire Department. He was offered a full-time firefighter position in 1983, and now becomes the first Cadet in Alhambra's history to officially retire from service.

Gil was promoted to the rank of Engineer in 1988, and then again to the rank of Captain in 1991. The majority of his time with Alhambra was served at Fire Station 72, on Sixth Street near Valley Boulevard, the station he now retires from. Gil says his most memorable incident in the fire service was when he served on a strike team during the 1999 Malibu brush fires. He was assigned for over a week and recalls many moments on the fire line when he and others believed they might not make it out alive.

But they did. And now Gil plans on cruising around the United States (many times for charity) on his Fat Boy Harley Davidson motorcycle with his wife Esther. He also plans to load up his motorhome, with his two kids in tow, to go many places he has not yet had the opportunity to see. He is wished much happiness and a great retirement after 23 years of service.



The next issue of **UNIFIED RESPONSE** will be published in mid-April 2006. Submissions of articles and photos are welcome through Apr. 10.

ARCADIA

Population: 56,320

Area: 12.00 sq. mi.

Assessed Value:
\$7,021,395,471

Headquarters Station 105 Project

The City of Arcadia Development Services and Fire Department staffs continue to work diligently on the plans to rebuild Fire Station 105 at 710 South Santa Anita Avenue.

Fire Administration, Fire Prevention Bureau, Truck 105 and Battalion 105 have been relocated to Fire Station 106 at 630 South Baldwin Avenue. Engine 105 and RA105 have been relocated to a converted single family dwelling at 141 Alice Street. The old station will be used for Multi-Agency Training during the month of January.

There has been no interruption to service and the crews appear to be adjusting well to their new facilities. Demolition and rebuild are expected to commence in spring of 2006.

Apparatus and Equipment

The Arcadia Fire Department has taken delivery of two new Pierce Arrow XT fire engines and has trained all personnel on use of the vehicles, including the compressed air foam system.



The first engine will be assigned as Engine 105 and should be in service by March 1, 2006. The second engine will be assigned as Engine 106 and placed in service soon after Engine 105.

Fire Prevention Bureau: Arcadia Offers a SAFER Program

SAFER...a Smoke Alarm For Every Residence... that's what will happen in the near future if the Arcadia Fire Department has its way! The program is proceeding at a rapid pace. Nearly half of the allotted detectors have been installed with the program continuing thru March 2006.

October was Fire Prevention Month. Companies provided 35 fire safety demonstrations at local elementary and pre-schools. During this time, the Department also conducted a number of station tours.

Personnel

Division Chief Don Shawver retired on December 23. Don has been with the Department for 32 years and has held every position up to and including Division Chief. He has been instrumental in many aspects of the progressiveness of the Arcadia Fire Department. He is a member of FEMA's Management Team and responded to the Oklahoma City Bombing of the Murrah Federal Building, the Pentagon Incident of September 11, 2001, and to the areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina. Don is also an

instructor and expert in USAR. The Arcadia Fire Department wishes Don good luck in his retirement and future endeavors!

Training

Fire suppression personnel responded to a simulated terrorist attack in November. This was in coordination with state-wide hospitals including Arcadia Methodist Hospital. The City of Arcadia's EOC was activated and participated in the exercise with other City departments.

Memorial

On November 18, the Arcadia Fire Department hosted a memorial service and procession to honor the 30th anniversary of the death of Captain Jerry Broadwell. Captain Broadwell is the only firefighter killed in the line of duty in the history of the Arcadia Fire Department. He was killed during a commercial structure fire in 1975. The procession included many on- and off-duty personnel, as well as several retired personnel.



BURBANK

Population: 106,739

Area: 17.15 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$10,954,391,173

Highlights from Burbank Fire

Greetings and best wishes for the New Year from everyone at Burbank Fire. It seems appropriate to start in December and work backwards to recognize our retirees. Engineer Brad Altman retires with 30 years of service. Engineer Ray Hickman, Captain Bob Ramsey, Captain Bob Reinhardt and Engineer Kirk Wishart each have 31 years of service, and Engineer Al Moore leaves us after 24½ years of service. With the departure of these individuals we lose a total of 178½ years of knowledge, experience and service and big boots to fill. They will be missed indeed. Staff have celebrated with them at station ice cream socials, a golf tournament at DeBell, and a well attended farewell dinner on January 7. Thanks to Burbank Fire Fighters Local 778 and all involved in making the dinner an event to remember. Capt Frank Walbert has been shadowing Bob Reinhardt in the recent past and will now take over as our Arson Investigator.

Sixteen Burbank Fire Dept employees reached service milestones this year. Five years: Rachel Luiz and Dave Starr. Fifteen years: Devin Burns, Tom Crawford, Tony Crenshaw, Ted Hemphill, Mike McDonald, Richard Morris, Steve Owen, Brad Royal, and Tom Zaun. Reaching the 25 year mark are Ray Krakowski and Terry Mencuri, and coming in at 30 years, Brad Altman, Ron Bell and Frank Walbert. All City of Burbank employees participated in

a City-hosted recognition breakfast on October 20. Those with 25 years of service and above were also recognized at the Council meeting on October 18.

Staying on the social side, BFD personnel got started on holiday fare with our annual holiday luncheon on December 15 and it didn't disappoint! The City's tree lighting was accomplished and Santa ushered into Burbank on December 1 to the heavenly strains of both Burroughs and Burbank High School choirs. The procession through the city brought out many city vehicles, antique vehicles provided and driven by the Road Kings, and our own Moreland Hose Tender with our Fire Marshal in the captain's chair and Squirt riding in the back. As usual, the Fire Truck was a great hit and judging by the response, Squirt is developing a loyal fan club. In December our Spark of Love Toy Drive brought in a treasure trove for the smaller members of our community. Thanks to Kelly Chulick and all his elves for their continuing dedication to this program.

Burbank Fire currently has a firefighter recruitment open thru February 24. Interim Fire Chief Tracy Pansini was interviewed on Armenian TV – Channel 55 – as an outreach to the Armenian community. He provided information on the recruitment process underway in both Burbank and Glendale in an attempt to open communication and overcome any stereotypes the Armenian community may have, and to encourage interest and participation in careers with the Fire Service. He also provided information on the fire departments' 9-1-1 Emergency Medical Services program and the types of services that can and cannot be provided by responders.

Like so many departments from Area C and beyond, Burbank Fire participated in the strike teams at the Topanga and Ventura Fires in Sep-

tember 2005 before being required to turn our attention to the Verdugo Foot-hills – the Harvard Fire – which broke out on September 29 and was fanned by intermittent Santa Ana conditions. Despite the fact that massive fires continued to the west, the mutual aid response from Area C, LA City, County and the State was outstanding as usual; we even got helicopters and water tankers – and we would like to thank everyone for their help.

According to fire science, a denuded hillside is a prime location for mudslides and problems during the rainy season. As if on cue, heavy rain rolled into Burbank on October 17, causing mudslides and multiple other problems in the Sunset Canyon area. Tons of debris flowed down the hillsides, into catch and flood control basins, down the streets, with water pushing parked cars some distance and limiting access in or out for



residents. The above photo shows the storm runoff at the De Bell golf course. With the help of Area C and our City departments, we dug out once again.

By this time, having faced fire and floods in a two-week period, our hillside residents had jangled nerves and many questions about fire and flood safety. A community meeting was put together for canyon residents and held at the Training Center on December 12 to review storm and weather watch conditions and explain trigger points for “shelter in place,” evacuation, flash flood warnings, etc. The meeting proved to be very useful and lots of information was given and received. Shortly after this, an

Incident Action Plan was developed for New Year's Eve, for which four inches of rain was forecast. Our EOC was set up in Bravo mode – set up and ready to go but not staffed. With the heaviest rain occurring on January 2, an evacuation site was opened at Station 11 due to flash flood warnings which, as planned, triggered the closing of Sunset Canyon with residents asked to shelter in place: if inside stay inside; if out of the area, stay out. With residents prepared as to what to expect and how to react, this event passed without major incident.

Following the devastating effects of Katrina in Louisiana and the surrounding areas, and the recent fires and storms experienced in Topanga, Ventura and Burbank, our City government requested the Fire Department to review the city's own readiness for catastrophic events and plans to encourage individual readiness. This will be an ongoing effort in 2006, headed up by Disaster Preparedness Coordinator Rich Baenen, with programs such as our "Are You Ready" which shows residents how to create a family communications plan, use fire extinguishers and put together emergency supply kits. These public training sessions fit in with new training programs for city staff who are taking federally mandated "National Incident Management System," an online training course in emergency preparedness.

Other notable incidents this quarter include the house fire in the 400 block of North Griffith Drive. Members of the Burbank Police Department performed heroically by entering a flame filled residence to pull the elderly occupant to safety and beginning CPR. The photo to the right is from a Christmas tree fire that occurred in the 4200



block of Sarah on December 31.



On December 5, Gary McDiffett received his Captain's badge and Edmondo St. Cyr received his Engineer's badge. With the retirements mentioned above, more promotions are certain in the coming months. Captain McDiffett is shown above with his family.

Our CERT Graduation took place on November 11, with Mayor Jef Vander Borcht in attendance (photo below). This group provides much to our organization.



On January 16, we will implement our Paramedic Assessment Program (Prehospital Care Policy Ref. No. 416, MICU Assessment Personnel and Ref. No. 704 MICU Assessment Unit Inventory.) Much effort

and hard work have been expended during the final quarter of 2005, getting personnel and equipment in place for the January implementation. The intent of Ref. 416 is to enhance patient care by providing specified advanced life

support to patients by an EMT-P before the arrival of a MICU and maximize the use of an EMT-P assigned to an Engine or Truck company to initiate an early assessment and initial life saving measures. Our initial plan is for Engines 12 and 16 to always have an Assessment Paramedic and the other Engines depending on personnel availability. Ref. 704 is a standardized inventory of all required and optional equipment and pharmaceuticals. Assessment bags with the necessary pharmaceutical cache are being placed on all front line Engines and Trucks.

In September 2005 the City of Burbank, partnering with NBC and the Bob Hope Family, undertook to build six transportable homes for Habitat for Humanity to provide housing for families displaced by the Katrina Hurricane. During this quarter, Erin Rank, President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity, wrote to let us know that the homes built in Burbank had reached their destination of Hope Village, Covington, Louisiana. Our thanks to everyone at Burbank Fire, the surrounding communities, fire departments and the business community who helped with this volunteer project.

Anticipation is building in the Apparatus and Equipment Division for our new Haz Mat rig, which is expected during the first quarter of 2006. The new Chevy four-wheel drive, Crew Cab, short bed, 2500 HD diesel pickup with a short bed was put into service this quarter. It will be used to tow our safety and EMS trailers. While it is a much needed and appreciated addition to the fleet, it also whet our appetites for the big stuff.

During the last quarter of 2006, our Fire Prevention staff spent 14 days visiting our public schools with the Kids' Safety Trailer, offering a full hour of one-on-one training to third grade students. Approximately 1,200

students were able to experience the sensation of a smoke-filled bedroom with a screaming smoke detector, escaping through the window and down a ladder to safety. Fire Safe topics included Stop, Drop and Roll; Cook a Burn; kitchen dangers; Safe House locations and uses; as well as calling 911 and talking to the dispatcher, and giving patient informa-

tion in a stressful situation. All classes were instructed by Burbank Firefighters and the program is offered in partnership with the Children's Burn Foundation.

Fire Prevention Week was celebrated with our newly restored Crown Fire Engine in the AMC Paseo Del Fuego located at San Fernando and Palm for four evenings during the

week. Information was offered and many questions answered for hundreds of movie goers and families out for a meal in the downtown area. Besides information we gave out red fire bracelets, carabiner key chains, and of course, helmets, to a lot of happy kids.



GLENDALE

Population: 207,007

Area: 30.59 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$15,830,670,571



the warehouse. Chief Arellanes has been with Glendale Fire for over 21 years. He is pictured below with wife Tammie, son Troy and daughter Brooke.

goes well beyond the Pierce name. We anticipate putting the second new truck on line in the very near future. In addition, grant funds were used to purchase new HazMat and USAR rigs, which will be placed into service in the coming months.



Personnel

Last month we bid a fond farewell to Battalion Chief Mike Haney (pictured above), Captain Bob Monnich and Engineer Mike McGee, who retired after a combined total of 85 years of service to the City of Glendale. It has been a profound privilege to work with all three of them and we wish them well as they enter a new phase in their lives.

On January 3, Captain Anthony Arellanes was promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief and he immediately assumed responsibility for the Support Section, which includes Emergency Medical Services, Verdugo, the mechanical maintenance shop and



Apparatus

In September we completed our integration of the four new Pierce Quantum fire engines and one of our two new Pierce ladder trucks to our frontline. Our complement of emergency equipment has never been better. We owe our thanks to the community, City Council and City Management for their overwhelming support in this effort. Department personnel were extraordinary throughout the process of design, build, acquisition and outfitting. The quality of these new rigs is simply outstanding and

Public Education

Engineer Patrick Shelton and staff member Tanya Gregorian did commendable work on a successful grant application to the Glendale Community Foundation. Applying in collaboration with the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, we were awarded \$10,000 to provide fire and burn prevention services at local Glendale schools and community/senior centers.

The highlights include funds for an Apple Titanium laptop, projector, portable screen, new public education DVDs for all ages and smoke alarms, along with reimbursement for some public education supplies already purchased. These items will greatly enhance the GFD Pub-Ed Section and improve our ability to distribute our message to the commu-



nity. The citizens of Glendale will also benefit from the smoke alarms that are now available for distribution.

Recruitment

Firefighter Recruit Preparation Seminars were held at Fire Station 21 on December 17 (photos above) and at Glendale Community College January 3 for over 500 men and women expressing an interest in applying for our next fire academy. The seminars were intended to provide a wide array of information on the application and examination processes. Approximately 1,200 applications were received in the weeks following the seminars and the written exam is being administered this week.

This year we are using a written test that is different from those used in previous years. The new test is designed to make the playing field more even for all applicants. There is a huge variability in standard operating procedures between fire departments; what is correct at one agency might not be correct at another, which could theoretically put certain candi-

dates at a disadvantage through no fault of their own. About 75% of the questions on the new written test will come directly from a preparation manual that uses a fictitious set of standard operation procedures to eliminate any potential disadvantage of this kind. The remaining questions are intended to test applicants' practical skills.

Fast-Mag Study

Glendale Fire Department is participating in a clinical trial sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NIH-NINDS). The clinical trial uses magnesium sulfate as a neuroprotective agent, slowing the damaging processes of acute onset stroke. In initial trials, administration of magnesium sulfate in acute stroke was shown to be safe and effective. Existing therapies for stroke in the prehospital setting are only limited and supportive.

The study is being conducted throughout Los Angeles County, in-

cluding the city of Glendale. Paramedics, who are trained in identifying signs and symptoms of acute stroke, will contact physician-investigators for study approval once a potential candidate is identified. The Physician-investigator will also elicit informed consent from the patient to participate in the study. For patients who are unable to give consent, legally authorized persons such as immediate family members may have the opportunity to enroll the patient. Paramedics will then be treating the patient with the initial dose of magnesium sulfate or placebo via intravenous in a double-blind study. Once the patient arrives at the Emergency Department, the study protocol will be continued and follow-up conducted.

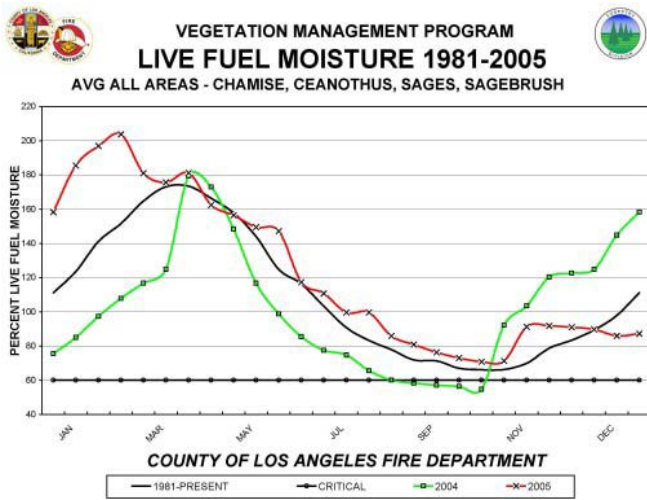
The study is in phase 3, examining whether initial quick treatment by paramedics using magnesium sulfate improves the long-term functional outcome of hyperacute stroke patients based on measures of activities of daily living, neurologic deficit, quality of life, and mortality.

Training

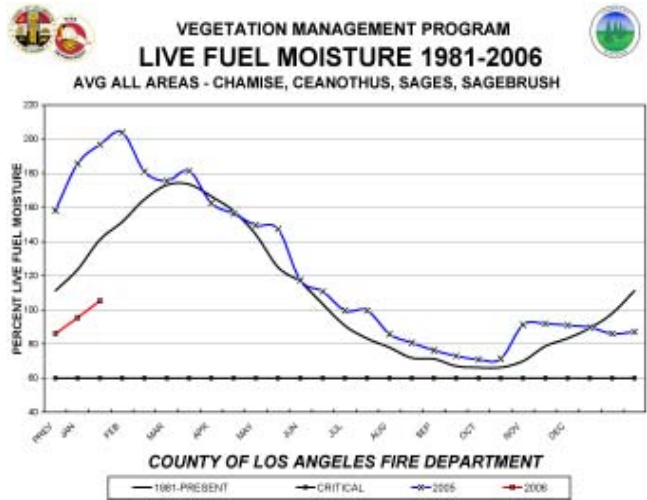
In addition to the usual courses, continuing education and drills, we will be offering two language courses in February for interested GFD personnel: Emergency Spanish for Firefighters and Emergency Armenian for Firefighters. Each course will involve five consecutive mornings of instruction at our Training Center by instructors provided by Glendale Community College. Both courses are designed to help emergency responders to better communicate with those in the community who speak these languages.

Courses Available Through LA County:

1/30-2/1	S339 - Division Group Supervisor
2/2-3	L280 - Fellowship to leadership
2/8-10	I400 - Advanced ICS
2/21-24	S330 - Task Force/Strike Force Leader
2/22-24	GPS - GPS/Land Navigation
2/27-3/2	S403 - Information Officer
3/6-10	S347/348 - Resource/Demob. Unit Leader
3/13-15	GIAO - Geographic Intermediate Air Ops



<http://www.lacofd.org/Forestry/FireWeatherDangerLiveFuelMoistureAllAreas.asp>



MONROVIA

Population: 39,147

Area: 13.73 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,693,852,934



Second-Alarm Structure Fire

Monrovia, Arcadia, LA County, South Pasadena and Pasadena units responded to a second-alarm structure fire in the 200 block of Valle Vista Avenue in 101's area. Engine 101 was the first company to arrive on scene, and reported a well involved single story, single family residence with fire showing from the front porch and attic area.

who retired on December 30 from the Monrovia Fire Department with a combined service of over 90 years. The testing processes for Fire Chief and Firefighter should be completed in the early part of 2006. Firefighter Alex Arellano has been promoted to Fire Engineer. The department will be conducting the testing process for Battalion Chief and Fire Captain within the first quarter of 2006.



Truck companies from the first alarm performed ventilation.

Three Retirements

Congratulations for outstanding service to Fire Chief Sam DiGiovanna, Battalion Chief Steve Lennox and Engineer Tom Ochoa,



Fire Chief Sam DiGiovanna



Battalion Chief Steve Lennox



Engineer Tom Ochoa

MONTEREY PARK

Population: 64,614

Area: 7.70 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$3,797,273,613

December 2005

As the end of the year is rapidly closing in on us, we would like to take this time to briefly recap some of the more significant events that occurred during the year. By far, the most significant item that has profoundly altered the way we do business is our arrival as the most recent addition to the Verdugo family. Our baptism officially began back on February 1, 2005.

Personnel

The next most significant event was the departure of Fire Chief Tim Murphy and the hiring of his successor. This is a local historic event with the appointment of the first female Fire Chief in the San Gabriel Valley, and the first female Fire Chief appointment south of Fresno, Cathy Orchard. Chief Orchard officially assumed her command on July 18, 2005. Among our other notable arrivals: FF Brandon Reyes, FF/PM Eduardo Stary, FF/PM James Lega, FF/PM Greg Dellenbach, FF Reuben Enciso, and FF David Goetz were hired.

Within a few months following the promotion of Fire Chief Orchard, the department conducted a Battalion Chiefs' promotional exam. Former Fire Marshal Mark Khail was appointed to the "B" Shift Battalion Chief's position on December 6, 2005. In his new capacity, Mark will take on the responsibilities as the Department's Training Officer. Captain Chris Fabrizio was promoted as

the new Fire Marshal. Both are very excited and eager to fulfill their new roles and responsibilities.

The year was marked by a number of highlights including USAR training classes that were attended by personnel from Monterey Park, San Gabriel and Alhambra FD and the subsequent arrival of San Gabriel's USAR unit Rescue 5. We look forward to placing Rescue 5 in service as an area resource.

Following the wake of devastation left by Hurricane Katrina and the subsequent relief effort, two of our paramedics were selected by FEMA to serve on one of the many teams deployed to the Gulf Coast. FF/PM Adam Malouf and FF/PM Andrew Respicio left for Atlanta only two days after their applications had been ap-



proved, and they were part of a team that received national recognition for their extraordinary efforts and accomplishments. We congratulate and appreciate all of our employees who have enriched and contributed to our department and community in so many ways.

Operations

In mid-April, the department took delivery of a new KME pumper to replace the aging E-One at our Station 62. We anticipate replacing our remaining E-One with an identical KME in mid-year. This will complete the standardization of our front line equipment with KME apparatus.

Training

As is often the case, when we are not busy running calls, a large por-

tion of our time is consumed with training. While much of our training comes in the form of continuing education for the EMTs and Paramedics, the lion's share this past year has been concentrated on USAR, probationary training, and anti-terrorism and disaster preparedness programs.

Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention division has been extremely busy during the past twelve months. The division has been working on a number of projects, including a cost recovery program for the use of illegal fireworks, community education programs through schools and the media and in conjunction with other city departments, and application of residential sprinkler usage coupled with infrastructure upgrades.

EMS

Our EMS division has rounded out the year with a successful audit by DHS. EMS has also developed a senior-focused Health Options Medical Education (H.O.M.E.) Program that educates seniors on non-emergency health strategies. We also congratulate the accomplishments of our own FF/PM Rob DeRosa, who has successfully completed his Medic training at PTI and was recently assigned to RA 61.

UNIFIED RESPONSE

Upcoming Deadlines

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Spring 2006	Apr. 10
Summer 2006	July 10
Fall 2006	Oct. 9
Winter 2007	Jan. 8

Mark your calendar!

PASADENA

Population: 146,166

Area: 23.0 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$13,538,015,099

The largest number of promotions in the department's history were announced by Chief Downs in November 2005. A badge pinning ceremony was held in their honor in December.

Chief Calvin Wells has been named to the newly created position of Fire Bureau Chief, responsible for the Operations Bureau. Chief Wells comes into the position with over 25 years of experience with the Pasadena Fire Department. He has effectively served in increasingly responsible positions and has a strong commitment to community outreach.

Scott Pursell was promoted to the position of Battalion Chief. Chief Downs appointed Chief Pursell to the new position of Assistant Bureau Chief as the department's Fire Marshal.

Other promotions include:

Battalion Chief

Alvin Blades
Kevin Costa
Mark Fasick
Marty Johnson

Fire Captain

Bill Cuskey
Sean English
Tony Miller
Henry Moreno
Rick Ornelas
Kevin LaPresle
David Watson

Engineer

Scott Austin
Chris Latham

Below are photos of newly promoted Captain Kevin La Presle be-



ing "pinned" by his wife, Christine, and new Battalion Chief Martin Johnson being recognized by his spouse, Connie.

In October, one of the largest residential fires in over a decade commanded a response from several neighboring agencies. The mansion, a total loss, had been featured in many movie and television shoots.



The USAR team rescued a four-year-old dog, a beautiful Great Pyrenees, that injured its paw while hiking with its owners in Eaton Canyon. The two hikers sustained minor



heat exhaustion and the dog was carried out on a stretcher.

McCormick & Schmick Restaurant in Pasadena recently celebrated their tenth anniversary by hosting a fundraiser for local charities and were assisted by the Pasadena Firefighter's Association. Fire personnel grilled lobster with all the trimmings and helped serve the generous customers.



Pasadena Fire's new USAR 32 – truly an impressive rig!

FF Quest 2006 Calendar

Feb. 10:

Mountain High Annual Ski & Ride

Mar. 18:

Annual Recognition Celebration

Apr. 17:

Central Coast FF Golf Tournament

Apr. 29:

Burbank on Parade (w/Warner Bros)

May 13:

Fire Service Day at many stations

June 2-4:

Burn Survivor Family Camp

June 5-9:

10th Year Quest Rally!



Aug. 6-12:

Camp Angel Faces - Lake Tahoe

SAN GABRIEL

Population: 42,374

Area: 4.10 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,460,825,804

Retirement

Captain John Hostetter, who entered the department in 1975, retired effective Dec. 31. Rather than have a retirement dinner in the future, John opted for a combination retirement / New Year's celebration at his home on New Year's Eve. John started his career back in the days of two EMT's on the ambulance (it's not an RA and don't you even think of calling an engine for help), two guys handling vehicle accidents that now see engines, trucks, and RA's as a matter of course, doing CPR as well as two guys could while moving the gurney down stairs ('cause no one collapses on the ground floor), and yearning for the day he could promote 'cause Engineers and Captains didn't go on medical calls, only fires and other emergencies, and in the "good ol' days" there weren't many of those. John promoted to Engineer in 1983 and then to the Captain's position in 1993. John and his wife Lori are in their new home in Glendora, and now's the time for them to sit back and enjoy life. We wish both of them all the best.

Personnel

San Gabriel had its annual Employee Recognition Awards ceremony on December 6, and Fire Department members claimed two of those awards. Battalion Chief Mike Terry was presented with the Innovation Award for his grant writing prowess that has resulted in the purchase of an air compressor for Station 51,

USAR equipment, USAR vehicle, and radios (both handheld and mobile). Engineer Jeff Powley received the Emergency Response Award for taking the lead in introducing the Rapid Intervention Crew concept into our SOP.

With John Hostetter's retirement, a Captain's position is now open and the test is on! The written portion is on Tuesday, Jan. 10, with 11 members eligible to take the exam. The testing process will be until the end of March (working around training and vacations), when a lucky (and of course competent, capable, and conscientious) candidate will be offered the position. Personally, I don't miss the stress those guys are under, not only with the average promotional jitters but knowing there's an open position (with an increase in pay and prestige) just waiting to be filled.

Firefighter Kirk Goltermann completed a WMD Hazardous Materials Technician training course at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama, from Nov. 26 to Dec. 3. Kirk is now scheduled for another WMD Hazmat skills class in March, again in Anniston, all paid for (along with the overtime necessary to cover his absence) by Homeland Security grant monies.

There is a new hire in background, and if things go well we will have a new Firefighter Paramedic in early February. Even with this hire, the department will be a person short and the hiring process will start again.

Training

Training opportunities are on the near horizon, with S-390 (Intro to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations) on Jan. 16, 18, and 20 at Station 51, and Rescue Systems 2 scheduled for the week of February 20.

In late 2005 the department offered Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, and Rescue Systems 1 in order to prepare all personnel for the soon-to-be-here days when they will be part of, or supporting, the new USAR team.

Upgrades

The contract has been signed with Luis Robles Construction to do the extension on the garage at Station 51 (to accommodate the new USAR vehicle) and to remove the center post between the apparatus doors at Station 52 and turn the two small doors into one large opening. This is to better accommodate the larger and longer fire engines that are moving into the 1949 fire station. Construction will start this week and completion is anticipated in April this year.



SAN MARINO

Population: 13,673

Area: 3.75 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$3,031,310,504

San Marino Welcomes Two New Firefighters



Shawn Stewart recently graduated from the paramedic program at Riverside Community College. He worked for CDF for four years prior to attending paramedic school. Shawn lives in Upland with his wife and daughter. He enjoys soccer, jogging and weight lifting.



James Oyler lives in Temecula with his wife and three children. His daughter was just born two weeks ago and he had the privilege of delivering her himself. James recently graduated from Riverside Community College Paramedic Academy. During his off time he enjoys his family as well as snowboarding, backpacking, rock climbing and trail running.

SIERRA MADRE

Population: 11,146

Area: 3.0 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$1,113,758,293

Updates

The Sierra Madre Fire Department continues to be the last all-volunteer Fire Department in Los Angeles County. We provide support to our community through our 50-member department 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Our equipment roster consists of three engines, one truck, one Type 3 Brush Engine, a Water Tender, one OES engine, and two Rescue Ambulances.

Training

Sierra Madre has awarded our Firefighter/Engineer training to Rio Hondo's Fire Academy. The majority of training will take place at Station 41 in Sierra Madre, or at the Rio Hondo facility for hands-on manipulative. Our new Firefighter Training

program is starting in January 2006. We expect the new training program, combined with our internal manipulative drilling, will insure we maintain the standards of excellence demanded by our community.

Our EMS training continues through UCLA and is conducted the last Wednesday of every month. Please contact BC Heydorff for further information.

Resources

It was with the deepest of regrets that we accepted the retirements of Captain Eric Peterson and Captain Mike Delgatto. As active members,

they were responsible for mentoring many of our Firefighters and were respected spokesmen for the department within our community.

Engineer Todd Conrad and Firefighter Chris Morrison have been promoted to the role of Captain. Both Todd and Chris have been with the department for many years and bring significant fireground experience to their crews.

Firefighter Jon Cripe has graduated from Paramedic school and will be resuming normal duty activities.

Congratulations to our new probationary Firefighters – Brenna Navarro and Aaron Schwartz!



SOUTH PASADENA

Population: 25,789

Area: 3.44 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,300,447,704

Given the current working conditions the South Pasadena Fire Department is experiencing, we are proud to announce 2005 was a successful year for us. In addition to servicing our community at the high

level our customers have come to expect, we accomplished our goals in the areas of Fire Prevention, Disaster Preparedness and Training.

Currently we have formed an apparatus committee and expect to have a new fire engine in August 2006.

The Battalion Chiefs have now joined the ranks with the 48/96 schedule. This has been a great move, instilling more of a team atmosphere. The Battalion Chiefs have also changed assignments after seven years. Battalion Chief Mike Clark is now in charge of Fire Prevention, Battalion Chief Phil Guiral is in charge of Training, and Battalion Chief Rick Mayhew is in

charge of Personnel.

Firefighter Richard Jenkins will be receiving a certificate of recognition from the City Council for talking a person down from jumping off the Colorado Bridge. In addition, we have submitted his name to CSFA for an award.

To the Area C cities, the South Pasadena Fire Department would like to say "thank you" for making the Unified Response system a success. We look forward to working with you in 2006.



STRIKE TEAM RESPONSES: 2005

S/T	Incident	Started		Leader	Trainee(s)	Ended	
1201A	Sierra	7/14/2005	18:48	BC1 - Stockton		7/14/2005	22:17
1205A	Quinn	8/1/2005	15:33	BC105 - Norwood	SMD - BC43 - Bamberger	8/1/2005	16:34
1202A	Gorman	9/3/2005	14:38	BC2 - Scoggins	GLN - BC2 - Bailey	9/4/2005	0:35
1204A	Gorman	9/3/2005	14:39	BC105 - Haney	SMD - BC42 - Bamberger	9/4/2005	0:36
1205A	Topanga Canyon	9/28/2005	15:16	BC10 - Dennis	PAS Capt. Imler / ALH Capt. Mosack	9/30/2005	15:41
1203A	Topanga Canyon	9/28/2005	15:16	BC3 - Law	GLN - BC Bailey / PAS - Capt. Costa	9/30/2005	14:25
1801C	Topanga Canyon	9/28/2005	17:23	BC2 - Scoggins	SMD - BC43 - Bamberger	9/30/2005	14:56
1201A	Topanga Canyon	9/28/2005	18:25	BC1 - Krakowski	BRK - Capt. Barone	9/30/2005	17:44
WT11	Topanga Canyon	9/28/2005	19:10		[Engrs. Cumbess & McGee]	10/6/2005	9:20
1203A	Harvard	9/30/2005	14:25	BC3 - Law	GLN - BC Bailey / PAS - Capt. Imler	9/30/2005	22:12
1803A	Harvard	9/30/2005	14:57	BC2 - Wright	SMD - BC43 - Bamberger	10/4/2005	9:09
1205A	Harvard	9/30/2005	15:42	BC10 - Dennis		9/30/2005	22:12
1201A	Harvard	9/30/2005	17:45	BC1 - Krakowski	BRK - Capt. Lenahan	9/30/2005	22:12
1204A	Harvard	10/1/2005	4:27	BC5 - Beckman	SGB - Capt. Roy	10/3/2005	15:15
1202A	Harvard	10/1/2005	9:57	BC2 - Bailey	GLN - Capt. Arellanes	10/2/2005	19:12
1205A	School	11/18/2005	7:55	BC105 - Norwood	MPK - Capt. Rick Burroughs	11/19/2005	9:35
1203A	School	11/18/2005	8:00	BC3 - Gordon	PAS - Capt. Ed Cowan	11/20/2005	21:16
1201A	School	11/18/2005	9:38	BC1 - Trowbridge	BRK - Capt. Frank Walbert	11/18/2005	22:18
1802B	School	11/18/2005	14:55	MTB BC Mowad	MTB - Capt. Duncan	11/18/2005	17:45

RESPONSE TIME ANALYSIS: 2005

AVERAGE ONSCENE TIME (Dispatch to Arrival)

Agency	Min:Sec
ARCADIA	4:23
BURBANK	4:19
GLENDALE	4:13
MONROVIA	4:23
MONTEREYPARK	5:04
PASADENA	4:20
SANGABRIEL	4:19
SANMARINO	3:54
SIERRA MADRE	4:50
SOUTHPASADENA	4:10

PERCENT OF RESPONSES UNDER 5 MINUTES

Agency	Percent <5 min.
ARCADIA	70.7%
BURBANK	73.6%
GLENDALE	77.0%
MONROVIA	68.8%
MONTEREYPARK	54.0%
PASADENA	72.1%
SANGABRIEL	75.0%
SANMARINO	77.6%
SIERRA MADRE	61.8%
SOUTHPASADENA	74.1%

Note: Dispatch to arrival times may vary due to many factors such as the city's geographical layout, the time of day or night, traffic density, road conditions and emergency unit availability. They can also be adversely affected by human error (failure to press ONSCENE on the mobile computer terminal when arriving at an incident) or failure of the mobile computer terminal to transmit the ONSCENE message.

Verdugo CAD Upgrade

Our mapping consultant, Mayee Salgado, completed data preparation work in December and we submitted it to the CAD vendor for conversion. The conversion has now been completed and a programmer will be doing one final step of file processing before we can install the new Area C map on the dispatch workstations. This step is to enable Verdugo's computer aided dispatch system to read the map data as a geofile and display 9-1-1 calls and incident locations directly on a map. Once this new functionality has been carefully tested and put through its paces, and after the dispatchers have been trained on the new display application called Altaris View, we will officially begin using the new Area C maps at Verdugo.

When an emergency call comes in and a dispatcher begins processing it, the caller's landline or cellphone location will appear on the dispatcher's map (unless the cellphone location is not available) and then it will disappear after the caller hangs up, leaving only the incident location as an icon on the map. All active incidents that Verdugo has dispatched will appear as icons on the Area C map and dispatchers will be able to zoom in very close to a location or zoom out to see an entire city or even the whole county. Numerous additional details such as hydrant locations, parks, hospitals, helispots, schools, rivers, and alleys are also included.

We had hoped to implement mapping in the rigs at the same time, but the display application was not user-friendly in the mobile environment so we came up with a concept for a custom mobile version and managed to negotiate acquiring it at no cost. We intend to postpone installation of the maps in the rigs until the new mobile version meets the needs of fire personnel in the field. A test prototype of our new design will be available in the near future. Development is not expected to be time-consuming or complex.

Will Williams from Mechanical Maintenance has been testing a GPS unit for us and is now working on coming up with a practical installation strategy. Once the units are purchased and installed, we will be able to implement AVL, or automatic vehicle location, throughout Area C. All front-line and reserve apparatus that have a mobile computer terminal will have a GPS receiver and when the unit is logged on to Verdugo it will appear as an icon on Verdugo's map. From that point forward, we will be able to view the actual locations of 9-1-1 calls, incidents and units in the field in real time. This phase will most likely be implemented in April or May.



Verdugo Raises Funds for Dispatcher's Family

Verdugo Fire Communications Center adopted a family for Christmas through 9-1-1 Cares, "Supporting Everyday Heroes." Andrea Deal is a dispatcher with the New Orleans Police Department. Her house and the dispatch center were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Andrea and her family, which includes an elderly mother, grandmother, and a three year old, have lost everything. She is living on a cruise ship, which they call "The Boat." She only asked for items that would give her family a Christmas: toys for the little boy, shoes and clothes for the adults, and in-home care for the older ladies. Saving to rebuild their lives and homes does not allow for extra spending on such items.



Andrea is a very strong person. Not only is she trying to support her family financially and emotionally through this disaster, but the center where she works was moved into a hotel. However, just before Christmas, the hotel told them they needed to leave. The dispatch equipment was going to be moved into five trailers that were attached together, and it would become their new dispatch center. Well, the work was completed and they were about to move in... it rained, the trailers leaked, and they were unable to move. She told me that all they could do was laugh. She has a job to do, there are people counting on her both at home and in the city of New Orleans – she is a dispatcher!

I am very proud of the dispatchers right here in Verdugo. We were able to send Andrea and her family \$800 worth of American Express gift cards. We thought it would be easier for them to shop and buy what they really wanted. Andrea was overwhelmed by our gift and couldn't wait to take the three year old to the toy store. There were 185 dispatchers and their families who were affected by Hurricane Katrina and were adopted by other dispatch centers, mostly in California. Verdugo also sent several bags full of necessities into Louisiana and Mississippi dispatch centers when the disaster first occurred. We are dispatchers through and through, always having a need to help others.

We hope everyone had a great Christmas, and look forward to a New Year.

Jessie Westin, Fire Communications Shift Supervisor

INCIDENTS BY CATEGORY: 2005

January	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	977	86	185	199	62	0	327	32	18	12	35
MEDICAL	3,517	249	573	1,128	218	0	1,007	143	45	41	84
SERVICE	640	39	58	182	46	0	190	15	41	21	46
OTHER	8	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
OOV*	42	2	3	19	2	0	0	6	9	0	1
TOTAL	5,184	376	820	1,529	328	0	1,524	196	116	74	169

February	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	728	73	129	139	30	33	220	15	14	11	25
MEDICAL	3,255	236	510	962	183	217	820	136	42	41	85
SERVICE	469	15	47	149	16	75	91	10	26	8	28
OTHER	9	0	2	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	2
OOV*	68	4	3	9	2	21	12	6	9	0	2
TOTAL	4,529	328	691	1,259	231	349	1,145	167	91	60	142

March	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	707	76	106	147	34	25	227	16	13	10	19
MEDICAL	3,742	248	534	1,084	220	249	1,034	138	48	38	106
SERVICE	277	21	45	74	13	19	53	11	10	9	19
OTHER	4	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
OOV*	84	1	4	11	3	26	7	10	18	0	3
TOTAL	4,814	346	689	1,318	270	319	1,322	175	89	57	148

April	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	645	67	95	116	43	34	194	24	16	4	13
MEDICAL	3,381	240	539	939	204	236	894	146	31	36	89
SERVICE	286	26	48	73	17	24	45	12	6	5	29
OTHER	10	0	1	3	0	1	3	0	1	0	1
OOV*	71	1	5	21	4	17	10	3	5	0	5
TOTAL	4,393	334	688	1,152	268	312	1,146	185	59	45	137

May	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	736	71	122	160	33	45	202	33	13	7	15
MEDICAL	3,565	237	538	1,026	210	225	976	137	49	31	93
SERVICE	233	15	34	67	22	17	44	10	5	1	15
OTHER	10	0	1	2	0	0	6	0	0	1	0
OOV*	84	3	4	15	5	20	12	11	9	0	4
TOTAL	4,628	326	699	1,270	270	307	1,240	191	76	40	127

June	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	721	57	131	128	41	43	232	21	10	10	14
MEDICAL	3,401	233	511	1,001	222	207	878	129	55	48	85
SERVICE	233	16	38	46	16	20	62	9	7	2	7
OTHER	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
OOV*	79	1	7	18	4	19	8	8	5	0	5
TOTAL	4,437	307	688	1,193	283	289	1,180	167	77	61	111

*OOV = Responses outside the 10 Verdugo cities to such locations as Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County and Alhambra (also included Monterey Park before it joined the Verdugo System on Feb. 1, 2005).

July	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	773	65	140	140	40	39	221	36	15	4	31
MEDICAL	3,582	226	530	1,005	197	233	1,036	141	33	51	93
SERVICE	270	23	46	64	17	19	63	9	13	6	7
OTHER	9	1	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
OOV*	88	2	7	20	5	20	6	11	13	0	2
TOTAL	4,722	317	723	1,233	259	311	1,330	197	74	61	133

August	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	777	76	112	133	42	25	263	26	27	14	31
MEDICAL	3495	264	545	997	201	207	955	132	34	29	101
SERVICE	239	22	37	62	13	12	61	11	7	3	8
OTHER	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
OOV*	72	5	6	14	2	20	7	6	5	1	3
TOTAL	4,584	367	700	1,206	258	265	1,286	175	73	47	143

September	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	798	60	150	167	40	35	225	37	16	12	18
MEDICAL	3,389	242	572	976	159	220	854	123	43	43	112
SERVICE	270	25	57	66	20	12	57	6	2	5	17
OTHER	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
OOV*	107	5	8	19	7	27	17	5	8	3	5
TOTAL	4,566	332	787	1,228	226	294	1,155	171	69	63	152

October	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	869	86	125	143	45	38	312	30	18	8	23
MEDICAL	3,453	225	569	985	197	230	909	152	35	40	83
SERVICE	259	17	35	71	24	20	66	8	2	7	8
OTHER	5	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0
OOV*	71	3	2	19	3	20	3	12	7	0	1
TOTAL	4,657	331	731	1,218	269	308	1,294	202	62	56	115

November	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	759	61	122	135	37	35	259	22	16	11	17
MEDICAL	3,446	236	506	1003	200	218	921	132	50	37	107
SERVICE	244	22	36	69	19	16	45	10	8	5	13
OTHER	67	14	13	9	0	3	19	2	4	1	2
OOV*	84	7	5	12	2	22	9	9	8	2	5
TOTAL	4,600	340	682	1,228	258	294	1,253	175	86	56	144

December	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	829	72	139	160	42	39	258	36	19	13	10
MEDICAL	4,068	298	665	1,143	219	280	1,040	175	50	47	104
SERVICE	260	21	44	57	16	20	67	11	3	6	13
OTHER	108	8	22	25	2	9	36	0	2	2	2
OOV*	93	5	7	12	4	29	8	11	13	0	3
TOTAL	5,358	404	877	1,397	283	377	1,409	233	87	68	132

2005 TOTALS	Verdugo	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	9,319	850	1,556	1,767	489	391	2,940	328	195	116	251
MEDICAL	42,294	2,934	6,592	12,249	2,430	2,522	11,324	1,684	515	482	1,142
SERVICE	3,680	262	525	980	239	254	844	122	130	78	210
OTHER	236	23	41	46	2	17	77	2	10	6	11
OOV*	943	39	61	189	43	241	99	98	109	6	39
TOTAL	56,472	4,108	8,775	15,231	3,203	3,425	15,284	2,234	959	688	1,653

UNITS DISPATCHED BY VERDUGO: 2005 VS. 2004

Agency	Unit	Responses in 2005	Responses in 2004	
ARC	E105	1,569	1,613	
	E106	2,069	2,120	
	E107	786	760	
	RA105	1,540	1,579	
	RA106	1,638	1,712	
	T105	584	535	
	AU106	4	5	
	USAR106	9	1	
BRK	E11	2,433	2,355	
	E12	1,482	1,480	
	E13	1,685	1,564	
	E14	1,296	1,254	
	E15	1,936	1,919	
	E16	747	736	
	E18	88	82	
	HM12	57	25	
	RA11	2,426	2,471	
	RA13	2,165	2,121	
	RA15	2,571	2,651	
	T11	762	713	
	T12	534	496	
	USAR11	21	16	
	WT16	2	3	
	GLN	AU28	30	24
		E21	3,133	2,875
E22		2,359	2,205	
E23		287	252	
E24		1,043	915	
E25		3,050	2,890	
E26		2,573	2,324	
E27		2,100	1,879	
E28		682	716	
E29		1,083	961	
HM27		44	28	
RA21		4,252	4,016	
RA25		3,852	3,697	
RA26		3,587	3,309	
RA29		1,822	1,743	
T21		1,022	970	
T26		989	904	
T29		294	341	

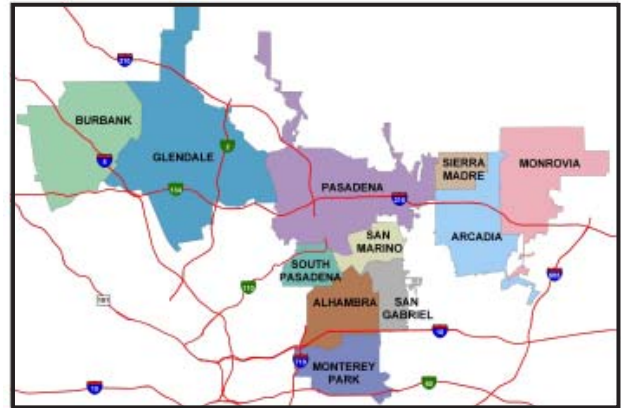
Agency	Unit	Responses in 2005	Responses in 2004
GLN (cont.)	USAR26	35	6
	WT21	6	1
	WT29	1	2
MPK *	E61	1,420	
	E62	1,135	
	E63	995	
	RA61	1,534	
	RA62	1,236	
	T61	404	
MRV	E101	1,944	2,036
	E102	1,556	1,552
	SQ101	1,624	1,732
	T101	552	605
	WT101	7	8
PAS	E31	3,488	3,722
	E32	1,809	1,710
	E33	3,219	3,285
	E34	2,265	2,183
	E36	3,077	2,951
	E37	1,423	1,423
	E38	708	640
	E39	652	575
	RA31	3,083	3,039
	RA32	2,546	2,381
	RA33	3,465	3,635
	RA36	3,051	2,927
	T31	1,104	1,028
	T32	799	694
SGB	USAR32	32	16
	E51	1,323	1,318
	E52	1,027	1,046
SMD	RA51	1,583	1,552
	E41	224	183
	RA41	671	633
SNM	WT41	1	0
	E91	1,055	1,160
	RA91	1,151	1,249
SPS	AU81	283	1,116
	E81	1,656	566
	RA81	1,190	1,532

Notes:

- Monterey Park joined the Verdugo System on 2/1/05, so January 2005 data are not included in these totals.
- Total *responses* for a given agency will be much higher than the number of *incidents* they responded on because two or more units respond on most types of incidents.
- Reserve rigs are included in the total for their assigned station. For example, the E21 total includes E721 and E821 responses.

OUT OF JURISDICTION RESPONSES: 2005 vs 2004

The following tables show the number of out of jurisdiction responses for each fire department in 2005 and 2004. This includes only those incidents that were dispatched by Verdugo Fire Communications Center. The leftmost column shows which agency responded; columns to the right show where that agency responded and how many times they responded to that jurisdiction during this time period. "XBB" refers to locations outside the normal Area C/Los Angeles response region. "XAA" includes units such as private ambulances, private company fire engines, airport crash-related vehicles and helicopters. Note that Monterey Park joined the Verdugo System on Feb. 1, 2005 so data prior to that date represent only the rare occasions when Verdugo dispatched units into or out of Monterey Park.



2005

Responding Agencies	City Where Incident Occurred														Subtotals
	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS	ALH	LAC	LFD	XBB	
ARC	X	2	3	236	1	72	10	1	4	0	0	37	0	2	368
BRK	4	X	338	1	3	23	0	1	0	0	2	28	31	0	431
GLN	1	284	X	1	4	119	0	1	0	0	0	83	106	0	599
MRV	286	8	3	X	1	5	1	0	1	0	0	42	0	1	348
MPK	2	1	4	3	X	3	70	2	0	3	102	83	1	55	329
PAS	96	22	67	14	12	X	16	38	1	103	3	87	9	0	468
SGB	4	2	3	2	35	8	X	17	0	3	63	35	0	0	172
SNM	7	1	1	6	6	287	207	X	0	148	28	81	0	0	772
SMD	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	4	0	2	8
SPS	6	0	0	2	6	157	6	72	0	X	30	0	8	1	288
ALH	3	7	2	1	204	10	174	41	0	73	X	5	1	1	522
LAC	55	1	60	51	46	28	42	7	1	0	0	X	1	2	294
LFD	0	5	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	1	X	0	37
XAA	82	100	38	2,425	67	27	2	2	0	1	3	4	2	X	2,753
Subtotals	546	434	538	2,742	385	739	528	182	7	344	231	490	159	64	7,389

2004

Responding Agencies	City Where Incident Occurred														Subtotals
	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS	ALH	LAC	LFD	XBB	
ARC	X	1	2	223	2	49	11	1	1	1	1	52	0	2	346
BRK	2	X	258	2	0	11	3	0	0	1	0	18	21	3	319
GLN	2	218	X	0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	82	113	1	506
MRV	262	0	1	X	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	52	0	1	319
MPK	0	0	0	1	X	0	20	0	0	3	0	2	0	1	27
PAS	56	4	43	9	0	X	4	45	1	102	1	94	12	2	373
SGB	4	0	0	3	5	7	X	31	0	2	66	45	0	3	166
SNM	8	1	0	7	1	193	257	X	0	166	30	94	0	2	759
SMD	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	4	0	1	9
SPS	1	0	1	0	1	378	27	84	0	X	40	2	7	1	542
ALH	5	0	0	5	1	1	131	20	0	36	X	3	0	2	204
LAC	40	1	53	39	0	24	33	14	1	0	0	X	1	3	209
LFD	0	1	9	0	0	2	0	0	0	17	0	0	X	0	29
XAA	69	88	11	2,410	0	10	3	1	1	1	0	5	1	X	2,600
Subtotals	450	314	380	2,700	11	765	490	196	5	329	137	453	155	22	6,407



In an effort to develop an interoperable public safety communications network in the greater Los Angeles area, several small cities

joined together to form the Interagency Communications Interoperability System Joint Powers Authority (ICIS JPA). The benefits of this collaborative effort include regional coverage, inherent interoperability and a sharing of the communications resource, providing better functionality and wider coverage for a cost similar to building a system sized for a single community.

ICIS uses trunking technology in order to maximize the efficiency of the available frequencies. This technology is based upon the same concept as is used successfully in both Orange and San Diego Counties' police and fire radio networks.

Each participating agency has built or is building their system so that it is compatible with the radio systems around it. Each system will then be linked with other systems to form a regional chain, essentially a "system of systems."

The agencies currently participating as system owners are Pomona, Montebello, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Torrance and Culver City. Subscriber agencies include San Marino PD, City of San Fernando PD, and Glendale Community College Police. A subscriber agency does not own any network components and pays a fee to the system owners for use of the network.

This year we have secured a federal grant for \$500K that will be used to extend ICIS network coverage to the Antelope Valley. The City of Glendale has also been granted funds through the LA Area Fire Chiefs from Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and State Homeland

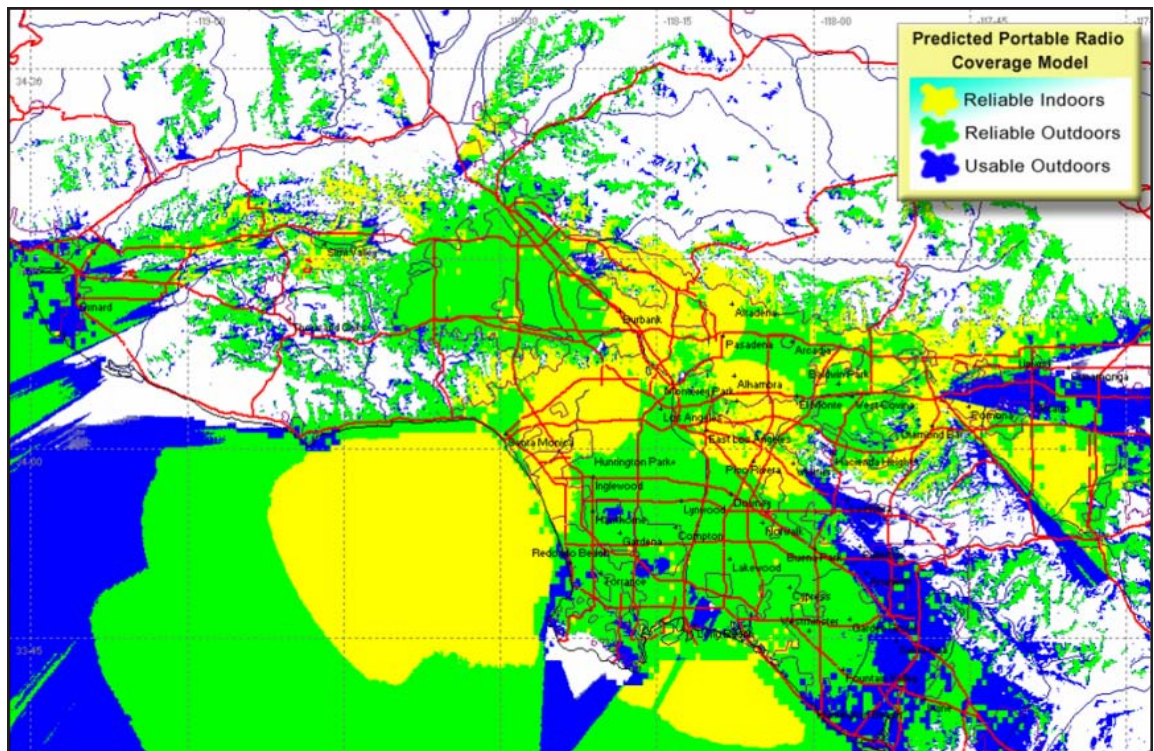
Security Grant Program (SHSGP) for the purposes of developing interoperable communications and interconnecting computer-aided dispatch (CAD) systems with the intention of speeding the process of automatic and mutual aid and allowing for dispatch centers to back one another up in the event of a disaster. We continue to lobby for additional federal and state funds to allow other agencies to join the network. Some of the interoperable communication funds will be used to enhance the ICIS network.

Several other agencies have approached the ICIS governance board requesting information regarding membership. The growth of the network will depend upon the decisions of the larger agencies in the region and how quickly a statewide and national plan for interoperability are developed.

The City of Los Angeles is currently studying the concept of a region-wide shared public safety network. Their consulting firm has examined many options and has looked favorably upon the model that ICIS presents. A decision on the direction for LA City and the region is expected within the next 60 days. Whatever the outcome, ICIS and its partner agencies will be considered when a final solution is selected.

Our ultimate goal is to build out the radio infrastructure to cover LA County and be able to connect it to existing networks in surrounding counties.

– B.C. Don Wright, Executive Director of ICIS



ICIS radio network coverage map prior to adding the Antelope Valley

VERDUGO FIRE ACADEMY

I could not be more proud and honored to serve with the old “Arroyo Seco Fire Academy” and to begin participating with the newly rechristened Verdugo Fire Academy.

When Chief Gray first discussed this opportunity with me I was a bit hesitant. I have worked with Chief Gray since the beginning of my fire service career and have always respected him as a person, his management style and the ability to get things done. Having his support was what made me seriously consider the position. The other deciding factor was how much I missed the personnel and the camaraderie of the Monrovia Fire Department. I really love that component of the fire service!

Chief Gray and I have both shared the vision of an Area C Unified Response Plan and I believe this will be one more step towards the Area C cities working even more closely together as one agency.

I met with Captain Tony Bagan of the Pasadena Fire Department, who is quite involved with the academy, and I was very impressed with his dedication to the academy, the common goals we shared, and his “can-do” attitude. Tony and I discussed our concerns and the direction which I believe will best serve the academy and Area C. The academy staff members and instructors from Area C and Los Angeles City and County Fire Departments made me feel right at home, so I accepted the position.

I believe the vision is to expand opportunities to everyone in Area C to participate in the training programs at the academy and the college (who are also great people to work with), creating a resource pool of cadets who all share common training and become hired as firefighters throughout Area C. This should also provide additional opportunities for all Area C agencies to train together. I sincerely hope the rest of the agencies participate in the opportunities that will come forward, as the goal is to continue training together while improving the service to our communities.

On January 7, 59 new recruit academy students began. The students are in the class for one year. This is a weekend academy. It is quite a commitment. They learn the basics of becoming a firefighter. From fire department introduction, leadership, basic firefighting skills, ropes, knots and hitches, ladders, cultural diversity, etc., you name it, everything



they need to know to becoming an entry level firefighter. I believe they are trained by some of the most highly trained and dedicated staff. The students also receive more certifications from this academy than any other fire academy. The goal ultimately is to run a full-time fire academy. I also want to thank the Glendale Fire Department for the use of their training center and their commitment to the academy.

These young men and women are the future of the fire service and I believe we all have a responsibility to teach and carry on the professionalism we share. If you have an interest in teaching and contributing to this program, please email me at: sdigiovanna@cox.net. I promise it will be a rewarding opportunity and a lot of fun working with the different agencies.

*Sam DiGiovanna, Fire Technology Director
Verdugo Fire Academy*

UNIFIED RESPONSE

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