



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig
Fire Chief

DATE: *February 23, 2012*
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PREMIER FIRE SERVICE HAS NO BOUNDRIES

“An eventful morning” is how San Bernardino County Fire’s Deputy Fire Marshal, Mike Horton, explained his morning commute to work. At about 6:45 a.m., as Chief Horton was travelling northbound on I-215 approaching Hwy. 74 west in Perris, he was flagged down by a male subject in a black SUV who was frantically mouthing the words “Baby! Baby! Baby!” Utilizing the PA system in his County Fire vehicle, Chief Horton instructed the driver to exit the freeway. Once stopped, the father jumped from the vehicle yelling “Help me! Help me! My wife’s having the baby now!”

After calling 9-1-1, Chief Horton immediately prepared the mother for the birth of her child. The baby was already crowning and shortly thereafter, Chief Horton delivered the healthy baby boy. Minutes later Riverside County Fire and American Medical Response (AMR) arrived on scene. AMR transported the family to Riverside County Regional Medical Center in Moreno Valley.

The very appreciative father hugged Chief Horton and stated, “I guess my son has a new grandfather.” They even named their little boy after the Chief, Levi Michael.

“It all happened so fast. I’m just glad I was in the right place at the right time. It was an awesome blessing and experience,” stated Chief Horton.

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