



NEWS RELEASE

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Fire Dispatch Centers Recognized for Outstanding Achievement by California Public Safety Radio Association

Consolidated Fire Agencies Joint Powers Authority (CONFIRE), which provides fire, rescue and emergency medical dispatch to the San Bernardino County Fire Department along with CAL FIRE, U.S. Forest Service, and Ontario Fire dispatch, was recognized by the California Public Safety Radio Association (CPRA) this month in Ontario during their 29th annual award banquet.

Representatives from each agency accepted the award for outstanding achievement as a team for their combined work in August 2016 on the Blue Cut Fire. The region's fire and rescue communications system utilized collaborative relationships and procedures in place with cooperating agencies to manage the widespread dispatch and telecommunication demands of the incident.

Karen Matthews, current Information System Analyst II with CONFIRE, was also recognized as CPRA's IT Technologist of the Year. The IT Technologist of the Year award is given to the top Information Technologist dedicated to the field of public safety that ensures the reliability of the agency's internal computer system, protects data security, and utilizes innovative solutions and applications to further the mission of the organization along with other criteria.

The CONFIRE Communications Center's (CommCenter) primary function is to provide 24-hour/365 day direct fire, EMS, and rescue dispatch services to CONFIRE's member and contract agencies that represent over 100 fire stations serving the majority of the residents and businesses within San Bernardino County. In 2016, CommCenter dispatched over 200,000 incidents.

Beyond the direct fire dispatch role, CommCenter also functions as the San Bernardino County (XBO) Operational Area dispatch, which provides large incident coordination for fire, local government, and emergency medical resources countywide.

Courtesy photos can be found at sbcfire.org.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department is an all-risk/full-service fire department committed to providing premier fire services through a balance of regionalized delivery and accountability to our local communities. We provide services beyond emergency response through our Office of Emergency Services, Office of the Fire Marshal, and state-of-the-art Communications Center. Our jurisdiction encompasses 19,278 square miles of extremely diverse deserts, mountains and valleys that span from the Los Angeles County line to the Colorado River and include over 60 distinct communities/cities

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