



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: November 7th, 2014

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County Fire Rescues Accident Victims

Date/Time: Friday November 7th, 2014 5:43pm

Location: Palmdale Rd. near Braceo St. Phelan, CA

Incident: Mass Casualty Incident, Traffic Collision

Just before 6:00 p.m., San Bernardino County Fire received a report of a traffic collision on Palmdale Rd. near the town of Phelan. Shortly after dispatch, County Fire received multiple 911 calls advising that there were numerous injuries and occupants trapped. The incident was upgraded to a, "TC with Extrication," which added a chief officer and an additional engine company to the initial assignment. The first company arrived nine minutes after dispatch and reported four vehicles with major damage blocking the roadway.

County Fire Paramedics performed a triage of the scene and determined there were a total of eight patients, three of which were critically injured. Extrication would also be required for one victim. County Fire declared an "MCI," and three more paramedic ambulances were requested as well as three air ambulances. The three patients categorized as "Immediates" required air transport to out of the area trauma centers due to the nature of their injuries.

County Fire responded with a total of three paramedic engine companies, 1 brush patrol, five paramedic ambulances and one battalion chief for a total of 21 personnel. Upland Fire Helicopter 165, Mercy Air 2 and Sheriff's Air Rescue 06 provided air transport.

The cause of the accident remains under investigation by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Dept. County Fire would like to remind travelers that it is always the best practice to wear seatbelts while in a moving vehicle. Seatbelts save lives!

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