



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Mark A. Hartwig**  
*Fire Chief / Fire Warden*

**DATE:** August 14, 2013  
**CONTACT:** Tracey Martinez, Public Information Officer  
(909) 387-5950, 800-426-8689, pager #3307

## **Johnstone takes Leadership Role as Assistant Chief**

SAN BERNARDINO – On behalf of the San Bernardino County Fire Department, it is my pleasure to announce the promotion of Jim Johnstone to the position of Assistant Chief effective August 12.

As Assistant Chief, Johnstone will oversee Human Resources, the Public Information Office, Support Services, the day to day fiscal operations and special projects.

“Jim possesses strong leadership and management qualities to lead this department into the future.” stated Fire Chief Mark Hartwig. “He has been and continues to be a mentor to many.”

Chief Johnstone began his career with the San Bernardino County Fire Department in 1985 as a Firefighter Paramedic in Lake Arrowhead. During his career with County Fire, Chief Johnstone has worked his way through the ranks, promoting to Battalion Chief in early 2008 and Division Chief in August 2011.

Chief Johnstone currently oversees Division 1 (Valley region), encompassing the unincorporated San Bernardino Valley and the City of Fontana. The division has contiguous boundaries with the communities of San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, Rancho Cucamonga and Ontario and shares its southern boundary with Riverside County. In addition to these responsibilities, in January of 2012 Johnstone took the helm of Division 4 (Mountain region), which covers over 600 square miles of vegetation-covered mountains, foothills and valleys.

He has served as the Technical Rescue Coordinator for the Mountain Division and as a Rescue Team Manager on County Fire’s Regional Taskforce 6. Chief Johnstone is qualified as a Type 2 Operations Chief on Southern California Incident Management Team #2. Prior to this position, he served as a Division/Group Supervisor on this same management team. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of California Riverside in Administration.

Chief Johnstone stated, “I look forward to the challenge and opportunity to further this premier fire organization. Through these hard economic times, we continue to find ways to persevere and provide the highest level of services to those we serve.”

Johnstone fills the Assistant Chief position left vacant in March when Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Peter Brierty retired.

Chief Johnstone resides in Lake Arrowhead with his wife Bridgett. Jim and Bridgett have seven grown children and three grandchildren. He and his family enjoy numerous outdoor activities together.

Photographs of Chief Johnstone are available at [www.sbcfire.org](http://www.sbcfire.org) under latest news.

*The San Bernardino County Fire Department is an all-risk/full-service fire department committed to providing the highest level of service in the most efficient and cost effective manner to the citizens and communities that we serve. At 20,160 square miles, San Bernardino County is the largest county in the continental United States and our jurisdiction encompasses 17,500 square miles of extremely diverse environments that stretch from the Los Angeles County line on the west, to the Colorado River on the east, to the Nevada State line and Kern and Inyo counties on the north. We provide services to five contract cities, more than 58 communities, and all unincorporated areas of the county. San Bernardino County Fire remains committed to providing Premier Fire Services.*