



MEDIA ADVISORY

Mark A. Hartwig
Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: April 17, 2017
CONTACT: Jay Hausman, Public Information Officer
(951) 218-1925

San Bernardino County Fire Department to conduct live structure fire training in Twentynine Palms

Starting on April 24, 2017, your San Bernardino County Firefighters will conduct live fire training burns of abandoned structures in the city of Twentynine Palms. The training will continue throughout the week and end at sundown on April 28. Residents may see columns of smoke throughout each day and should not be alarmed as it is a controlled process for the fire department to teach its 40 new trainees who are part of the new hire recruit training company known as "Tower 8."

Several streets will be closed during the week for the safety of the firefighters working on the training grounds and residents due to multiple fire apparatus in the area. The streets affected are Cholla Avenue, Smoketree Avenue, Yucca Avenue, and Tamarisk Avenue. These four streets will be closed from Highway 62 to Cactus. The fire department asks the public to please take alternate routes should their day take them into these areas.

The training will consist of structural fires where the trainees, under the guidance of the Tower's training cadre, will learn fire behavior as well as the newest ways of controlling fire. The trainee will have the opportunity to experience first-hand how actual structures burn, and be able to enter those structures to extinguish and control the fires' path. This unique training allows a trainee to get up close with how operations work on the fire ground and what they may encounter once they have completed their demanding 16-week training "Tower."

This training is conducted in coordination with the city of Twentynine Palms and the Twentynine Palms Water District. San Bernardino County Fire Department appreciates the efforts of all those involved from these agencies in allowing for this valuable training to occur.

SAFETY MESSAGE: San Bernardino County Fire Department urges its' citizens to be vigilant and report any citing of smoke via 911. Early recognition of fire allows your firefighters to keep the fire small, thus protecting lives, property and the environment. If you are not sure during the week of April 24-28 if the smoke you see is from our training burns mentioned about above, please call 911 to report what you see.

###