



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
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### County Firefighters Extricate Driver From Head on Collision

Date/Time: July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Location: Palmdale Rd near Caughlin Rd.  
Incident: Traffic Collision with major injuries

#### Summary:

*At approximately 11:30 A.M. County Firefighters and Paramedics responded to a reported head on traffic collision on Palmdale Rd. near Caughlin Rd. in Baldy Mesa. County Fire responded with two Paramedic Engine Companies, 2 Brush Patrols, one Heavy Rescue unit and a Battalion Chief for a total of 14 personnel.*

*County Fire arrived on scene several minutes after dispatch and reported a small sedan vs. a truck towing a toy hauler with major damage to the small sedan. It was also reported that one female patient was trapped in the sedan with critical injuries and would require extensive extrication. After an approximate 20 minute extrication the patient was removed from the vehicle and care transferred to County Sheriff Air Medics. The single occupant was transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center via Air Rescue with life threatening injuries.*

*The benefit of County Fire staffing Paramedics on Fire Engines was evident today. Vehicle extrication is extremely hazardous. Firefighter/Paramedics wear specialized turnout gear that is fire resistive and provides protection from the hazards of damaged vehicles such as broken glass, sharp metal, and leaking flammable liquids. This allows for simultaneous initiation of advanced life support care while rescue procedures are underway. In this case a full 20 minutes prior to the patient being extricated from the vehicle. The accident is currently under investigation from the California Highway Patrol.*

*County Fire would like to remind motorists to always wear your seatbelt while in a moving vehicle. In this instance the patient was seat belted at the time of the crash. Seatbelts Save Lives!*

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