



## NEWS RELEASE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

*Mark A. Hartwig  
Fire Chief*

**DATE:** *Thursday, November 15, 2012*  
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### **BRITT SIPE PROMOTED TO LEAD NORTH DESERT DIVISION**

SAN BERNARDINO - The San Bernardino County Fire Department is proud to announce the promotion of Battalion Chief Britt Sipe to the rank of Division Chief. Effective November 17, Chief Sipe will be assigned to Division 2 where he will be replacing Division Chief Barry Fox, who is retiring after 29 years in the fire service. Division Chief Sipe has been with the County Fire Department for 23 years and has previously served in the Valley, Mountain, and North Desert Service Zones. Chief Sipe worked as a Fire Captain for over 13 years before promoting to Battalion Chief in 2010 with his most recent assignment being in Division 3 serving the High Desert.

Division Chief Sipe possesses strong leadership skills and is an effective communicator. In 2008, he graduated from San Bernardino County's Management & Leadership Academy and has since mentored five other participants in the program. A superior fireground officer, Sipe was also a member of the County Fire Hazardous Materials Response Team for eighteen years serving the last several years as the team's coordinator prior to promoting to Battalion Chief.

"I'm looking forward to the leadership challenges in Division 2 and continuing to improve our service and relationships in the diverse communities we serve in the high desert."

Chief Sipe spends his days-off surfing, mountain biking, and hanging out with family and friends. He and his wife, Cindy, have been married for thirty four years and have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Chief Sipe will be overseeing operations for Division 2 which is responsible for 10,884 square miles of some of the most diverse topography in the county. With a resident population over 150,000, the division includes the cities and communities of Adelanto, El Mirage, Hesperia, Lucerne Valley, Oak Hills, Phelan, Pinon Hills, Summit Valley, Windy Acres, and Wrightwood.

A photo of Division Chief Sipe is available at [www.sbcfire.org](http://www.sbcfire.org) under Latest News.

