



NEWS



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- Off-duty firefighters save cardiac arrest victim in market

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San Bernardino County Fire Department Captain/Paramedic Brett Dickerson and Engineer/Paramedic Dustin Griffin were honored for saving the life of a man who was a cardiac arrest victim. (Contributed photo by San Bernardino County Fire Department)

Just another ordinary day? Not for **San Bernardino County Fire** Department Captain/Paramedic Brett Dickerson and Engineer/Paramedic Dustin Griffin.

On March 1, while shopping with their families at the Sprouts Market located at 6753 Carnelian Street in Rancho Cucamonga, the two off-duty firefighters came upon each other at the checkout counter.

They heard a commotion in the deli area and Griffin went to investigate. He noticed a store employee lying on the floor unresponsive. Realizing there was a medical emergency, Dickerson quickly joined Griffin.

Both firefighters rapidly took control of the situation, evaluating the patient and administering medical attention. They immediately called 9-1-1 and started CPR, while a store employee retrieved an AED (automatic external defibrillator).

While continuing CPR, they hooked up the AED to the patient, where they were guided to shock the subject and then continue CPR.

Shortly afterward, the patient regained a cardiac rhythm. The Rancho Cucamonga Fire Department arrived on scene while CPR was in progress. Dickerson and Griffin remained to assist with continued patient care and loading the patient on the gurney for transport to a local hospital.

The victim, a man in his 50s, survived the cardiac arrest and is expected to make a full recovery thanks impart to the quick actions of Dickerson and Griffin.

On June 6, the Rancho Cucamonga City Council honored Dickerson and Griffin with the Lifesaving Citation Award for their lifesaving efforts.

The Fire Department said that a new app called PulsePoint alerts CPR-trained bystanders to a cardiac emergency in a person's vicinity.

"You can now get to the scene and start CPR in the critical lifesaving minutes before EMS teams arrive," the Fire Department said in a press release.

Individuals can learn more about PulsePoint and download a free app at www.sbcfire.org.

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