



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
 Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017

CONTACT:
 Mónica Muñoz at 619-533-3780 or munozm@sandiego.gov

Urban Search & Rescue California Task Force 8 Returns Home

EVENT TO WELCOME THE TEAM SCHEDULED

San Diego – San Diego Fire-Rescue is the sponsoring agency for FEMA Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) California Task Force 8 (CA-TF8). CA-TF8 received orders to deploy to Texas on Aug. 26, 2017. They spent six days in the Houston area performing searches and providing medical aid as well as evaluating damaged structures. CA-TF8 has been demobilized and is now on its way back to San Diego. The Task Force’s anticipated arrival is 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017.

CA-TF8 is made up of 210 total members representing 21 agencies and organizations in San Diego County. Of the 45 team members on this activation, 24 are City of San Diego firefighters and 21 are representatives of 13 other fire agencies. There is one structural engineer from the Development Services Dept. and one medical doctor from a local hospital on the team. This team is one of 28 FEMA US&R Task Forces in the United States.

“We are very proud of the members of CA-TF8,” said Fire Chief Brian Fennessy. “They train year round and maintain a high level of readiness in order to respond wherever their unique training and skills are needed. It’s important to note that their time at home may be short lived. CA-TF8 is next up on the national US&R rotation and will likely be deployed to Hurricane Irma and deliver their lifesaving services once again.”

WHAT: FEMA Urban Search & Rescue California Task Force 8 returns home

WHO: Brian Fennessy, Chief, Fire-Rescue
 Kevin Ester, Assistant Chief, Fire-Rescue
 Dave Gerboth, Battalion Chief & CA-TF8 Program Manager, Fire-Rescue
 Dan Froelich, Battalion Chief & Task Force Leader, Fire-Rescue
 Members of FEMA US&R CA-TF8
 Family members

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: SD Fire-Rescue Training Facility
2580 McCain Road
San Diego, CA 92101

VISUALS: US&R CA-TF8 members reuniting with their family and loved ones
Interviews with Chief Fennessy and CA-TF8 members

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