



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Cadet Summer Academy Media Day Scheduled for July 18

## YOUTH AGES 16-21 PARTICIPATING IN FIREFIGHTING ACTIVITIES IN A WEEK-LONG ACADEMY PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO – Media are invited as the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) presents its 27<sup>th</sup> annual cadet summer academy for current fire cadets ages 16 to 21. The goal of the SDFD Cadet Program is to give young men and women an inside look into fire and emergency medical services careers. There are currently about 200 cadets in the program who represent San Diego's diverse demographics including 20 percent who are young women. The cadet academy is presented once a year and is patterned after the SDFD basic fire academy. Cadets train in a variety of firefighting skills including search and rescue, hose lays, rappelling, physical fitness, first aid and ladder evolutions.

**"The young men and women involved in our Cadet Program learn valuable leadership skills which help them stay focused on their futures and stay in school,"** said Interim Chief Kevin Ester. **"This program allows them to engage in challenging activities with firefighters and consider a career in fire or emergency medical service."**

***Members of the media are invited to visit the academy on Wednesday, July 18 between 8 and 11 a.m. Please email [munozm@sandiego.gov](mailto:munozm@sandiego.gov) if you plan to attend.***

**WHAT:** Cadet summer academy media availability

**WHO:** Captain Mike Colafrancesco, Cadet Program Coordinator  
Engineer Tim Mispagel, Assistant Cadet Program Coordinator

**WHEN:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018, between 8 and 11 a.m. (media availability)

**WHERE:** SDFD Training Facility  
2580 Kincaid Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

**VISUALS:** Interviews with camp organizers Capt. Colafrancesco and Engineer Tim Mispagel and selected fire cadets.  
Opportunities for shooting at a variety of activity stations to capture firefighting activities.

Throughout the year, cadets participate in volunteer events, training meetings and ride-alongs with fire engine companies. New cadets are enrolled each quarter. The program is sponsored by SDFD and the San Diego Firemen's Relief Association. All instructors are current SDFD firefighters. For additional information on the program visit <http://www.sdfdcadets.com/>

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