



NEWS RELEASE

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OCFA Fire Station 56 Wins National Design Award

Firehouse Magazine's Recognition Highlights Stations Nationwide

Irvine, CA – The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) has been nationally recognized by *Firehouse Magazine* for the design and architecture of Fire Station 56 in Rancho Mission Viejo. OCFA received a second place silver medal in the category of Career Fire Station Design, among a national field of entries, for its recently completed station which opened on July 10.

“OCFA is honored to win this award. The design and innovation of WLC Architect combined with the skill and efficiency of builder Erickson Hall, resulted in an outstanding facility that blended perfectly into the Rancho Mission Viejo Community of Sendero Village,” said OCFA Property Manager Steve Chambers. “The project was completed efficiently and the cooperation among the Rancho Mission Viejo Company, the Sendero Ranch Master Plan Community, the Orange County Building Department, and OCFA could not have been better.”

OCFA’s Fire Station 56, which serves the communities of Rancho Mission Viejo, Ladera Ranch and San Juan Capistrano, was designed and built by Erickson Hall-WLC Architects in the Spanish Progressive style championed by Architect Irvine Gill. The 10,000 square foot facility has three apparatus bays, housing for three fire companies and a state-of-the-art kitchen. The project represents the first time OCFA has built a fire station using the design-build delivery method which allows a station to be designed and constructed by a single entity. In the past, fire station delivery required two years to complete. Fire Station 56 was finished in 18 months, on time and within budget.

A panel of five judges who included two fire chiefs, two architects and one fire protection engineer/architect with expertise in fire station design selected the award winners in five separate categories. OCFA, and all the winners of The 2015 National Fire Station Design Awards, are featured in the November edition of *Firehouse Magazine*.

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The OCFA is a joint powers authority that serves more than 1.8 million residents in 23 cities and the unincorporated areas of the county.