



NEWS RELEASE

Orange County Fire Authority
Public Affairs
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For Immediate Release:
June 9, 2016

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OCFA Firefighters Help Battle California's Wildfires

*Strike Teams, Personnel, Dispatched to Northern and Southern California
To Assist on Soberanes and Sand Fires*

Irvine, Calif. – The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) has dispatched 95 firefighters, and equipment to help fight wildfires in northern and Southern California. OCFA personnel are engaged on the Soberanes Fire in Monterey County and the Sand Fire in Los Angeles County.

“We want to do everything we can to provide assistance to these communities that will help to contain the wildfires, protect structures, and keep people safe,” said OCFA Assistant Chief of Operations Dave Thomas. “At the same time, we will always ensure that we have appropriate coverage here at home.”

On July 22 and 23, three strike teams (a strike team consists five engines and two lead personnel, between 18 and 22 staff) were sent to the Sand Fire in Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County. Also, on July 22 and 23, more than 40 firefighters and equipment were dispatched to the Soberanes Fire in Monterey County.

- The Soberanes Fire has consumed nearly 15,000 acres in Monterey County. Mandatory evacuations are in effect, 1,650 structures threatened, six homes destroyed, no injuries.

[Soberanes Fire](#)

- The Sand Fire has burned more than 33,000 acres in Los Angeles County. 20,000 residents evacuated, 200 commercial structures threatened, one life lost.

[Sand Fire](#)

“We provide this kind of assistance as part of a system that ensures that when we need help, the same kind of resources and personnel will be headed our way to fight wildfires in Orange County,” said Thomas.

OCFA has a cooperative agreement with CAL FIRE to provide manpower and equipment to help battle the state's wildfires. OCFA always retains the staff and resources required to maintain an effective firefighting force at home.

For more information about OCFA, visit www.ocfa.org.

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The Orange County Fire Authority is a joint powers authority that serves more than 1.8 million residents in 23 cities