

## NEWS RELEASE

Communications and Public Affairs 1 Fire Authority Road Irvine, CA 92602

For Immediate Release: Feb.1, 2016

Contact: Steve Edwards 714-573-6028 steveedwards@ocfa.org

## OCFA Launches Free PulsePoint Mobile App for Citizen CPR Response

**Irvine, Calif.** – The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) today launched PulsePoint, a free mobile app that guides life saving CPR response, for registered users within its service area. The app sends an alert when a sudden cardiac arrest occurs in a public place or in the immediate vicinity of the user.

"We highly encourage all Orange County residents to download this life saving mobile app," said OCFA Division Chief Dave Anderson. "But we also want adopters of the app to become CPR certified, and to learn a skill that could one day allow them to help save someone's life."

The PulsePoint mobile app is designed for use by citizens and off-duty professionals trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Informed at the same time as emergency responders, users are given detailed instructions, including the nearby location of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs).

PulsePoint is now available to Orange County residents through a generous grant from Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian. "We are proud to support the Orange County Fire Authority in providing this important public safety app for the citizens we serve," said Gwyn Parry, M.D., director, Department of Community Health and Community Benefit Programs at Hoag.

The PulsePoint app is integrated with OCFA's Emergency 911 Dispatch Center. This allows a user to quickly find a victim and immediately begin CPR while waiting for EMS to arrive. PulsePoint also has function to allow users to register the locations of publicly accessible AEDs.

Cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death, affecting hundreds of thousands of people in the United States each year. Effective CPR, administered immediately after cardiac arrest, can increase a victim's chance of survival.

The PulsePoint app can be downloaded for free on any mobile device. Additionally there is a PulsePoint AED app, which allows the public to register locations of publicly accessible AEDs. For more information on PulsePoint visit: http://www.pulsepoint.org/pulsepoint-respond/

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