



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

August 24, 2017

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## ***California Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 5 Deploying to Texas***

**Irvine, CA** – California Urban Search & Rescue Task Force 5 is being deployed to San Antonio, Texas, in anticipation of Hurricane Harvey making landfall. The Task Force consists of 45 members from Orange County Fire Authority, Anaheim Fire, and Orange City Fire Departments. California Task Force 5 has personnel and equipment specifically trained for search and rescue in a disaster environment. They have the ability to perform wide area searches, render medical care, perform rescues in static or swift water, and assess hazardous materials situations.

The task force will be departing at midnight, and will be arriving at the AT&T Center in San Antonio, Texas. The 1,350 mile drive will take approximately 18-20 hours. Once on site, they will be joining other task forces from Tennessee, Nebraska, Missouri, Ohio, and Utah. The purpose of these task forces is to provide additional support to local first responder agencies.

“Task Force 5 is comprised of highly trained individuals from the OCFA and our cooperating agencies, and are always prepared to respond to disasters locally, statewide, and nationally.” Said Battalion Chief Mike Petro, California Task Force 5 Program Manager. “We are ready to assist the citizens of Texas with our personnel, equipment, and expertise.”

The task force should be in place before hurricane Harvey makes landfall on Saturday. The slow-moving storm is expected to produce large amounts of rainfall, increasing the danger of flooding.

The OCFA will update California Task Force 5’s status and activities on our Twitter

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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. In anticipation of*

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