



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:
September 24, 2015

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OCFA Firefighters Return Home from Battling Northern California Wildfires

Irvine, CA – During the last several days, Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) firefighters have been returning home, with equipment in tow, from fighting fires in Northern California.

OCFA Battalion Chief Mike Blawn said, “Our crews worked 24-hour shifts, tirelessly and without complaint. He added, “We were able to help a grateful, close knit community in Angels Camp and Murphys and I have to say it’s a surreal experience to be thanked by so many people who lost everything.”

BC Mike Blawn managed a five engine strike team of 18 personnel that was sent to the 70,000 acre Butte Fire on September 10 and returned home yesterday.

At the height of activity, OCFA had 91 personnel assisting with various fires across the state, including eleven fire engines, a dozer, a helicopter and nine support vehicles. As of today, 70 firefighters have returned to Orange County.

OCFA has a cooperative agreement with CAL FIRE to provide manpower and equipment to help battle the state’s wildfires. This same agreement provides resources into Orange County and will be utilized when the need arises for wildfires here.

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

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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.