
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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CAL FIRE Program to Emphasize Importance of Safety

Sacramento – CAL FIRE’s annual “Focus on Safety” program will commence on Monday, June 11, 2007. This year’s program will be comprised of several topics, each of which has been determined to have high relevancy to the department’s emergency and non-emergency operations. Topics to be reviewed will include situational awareness issues; guidelines for engagement, disengagement, management of risk; fatigue and work/rest cycle issues, California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal OSHA) mandated heat illness prevention and injury/illness trends.

Additionally, CAL FIRE also will be a participant in the third Annual International Association of Fire Chiefs/International Association of Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Services Safety Stand Down entitled “Ready to Respond” during the week of June 17–23, 2007. The Stand Down will focus on preparing firefighters and EMS personnel for their daily duties by reviewing their training and the proper use of equipment to ensure safe response, mitigation and return from all emergency situations. Failure to remain cautious can cause routine activities to become hazardous, as has been shown in the many fire service and emergency medical service line-of-duty deaths and injuries.

The ultimate goal of these “stand downs” is to create a heightened awareness in each firefighter as to the effects these topics can have on overall safety and well being.

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