

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 7, 2018

TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

SUBJECT **Dallas Fire-Rescue's (DFR) Wildland Team-California**

On Monday, December 10, 2018, you will be briefed on Dallas Fire-Rescue's (DFR) Wildland Team and the significance of their two (2) Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fire assignments to California by Special Operations-Deputy Chief, Charlie Salazar. An overview of the California Wildfires, Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS), and the DFR Wildland Team will be presented. The briefing will provide the details on each of the two (2) 2018 California WUI assignments.

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon Fortune".

Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

c: Chris Caso, City Attorney (I)
Carol A. Smith, City Auditor (I)
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager & Chief Resilience Officer
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Directors and Assistant Directors

California Wildfires 2018

Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

December 10, 2018

**Charlie Salazar, Deputy Chief
Special Operations
Dallas-Fire Rescue (DFR)**





Overview

- California Wildfires
- EMAC (Emergency Management Assistance Compact) State to State Mutual Aid
- TIFMAS (Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System)
- DFR Wildland Team



Purpose:

Importance of California Assignment

- Provide assistance
- Gain experience
- Determine and test team capabilities
- Identify training and resource gaps
- **Protect the City of Dallas's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) community through a well trained and tested DFR-Wildland Team***

Carr Fire (Northern California)

- July 23, 2018
- Shasta County (Whiskeytown/Redding)
- 229,651 Acres/1,604 Structures
- Eight (8) civilian fatalities/three (3) FF fatalities
- Fire was caused by mechanical failure







Carr Fire (DFR Wildland Team)





Woolsey Fire (Southern California)

- November 8, 2018
- Los Angeles/Ventura Counties
(Malibu/Pepperdine University)
- 96,949 Acres burned/1,500 structures destroyed
- Three (3) civilian fatalities, three (3) FF's injured
- Cause is under investigation









Woolsey Fire (DFR Wildland Team)





TIFMAS Resources

Carr Fire

- 5 Task Forces
- 25 Engines
- 100 Firefighters

Woolsey Fire

- 10 Task Forces
- 50 Engines
- 200 Firefighters*





DFR Wildland Team Resources

Carr Fire

- Tender (2000 Gal)
- 2 Type-III Engines
- 11 DFR WUI FF's

Woolsey Fire

- Task Force (TF)*
- 1 TF Leader Vehicle
- 1 Type-I Engine
- 2 Type-III Engines
- 2 Type-VI
- 16 DFR WUI FF's

Tactical Tender (2000 Gal)



Type I Engine



Type III Engines



Type VI Engine





Provide Assistance

- Reciprocate assistance
- Hurricane Harvey agencies from all over the country assisted Texas
- Citizens were grateful





Gain Experience

- Large scale on the job training
- Type 1 Incident experience
- WUI capabilities are tested (arduous conditions)
- Joint operations with Cal-Fire (best practices)
- This experience is used when addressing WUI threats in the city of Dallas





Determine and Test Capabilities

- Team adapted and performed well
- Type of heavy equipment was adequate
- Important to maintain equipment (state of readiness)
- Important to keep high physical standards





Training Gaps

- More Engine-Bosses
- Share experiences with members who did not go on either assignment
- More sawyers
- Work with the state to get task-books signed off





Resource Gaps

- Designated Strike Team Leader Vehicle replacement (soon)
- Type-III fire engines (Long term)
- Type VI fire engines (soon)
- Crew bus (intermediate)





Lessons Learned

- WUI mitigation is important (CWPP)
- **Evacuation** in large scale wind driven events is critical
- Lots of resources required
- Training and experience gained is cost neutral (reimbursed).
- Unified Command and ICS is important



Dallas Fire-Rescue Wildland Team

- Team is highly trained and dedicated
- Team is eager to help and continue learning
- Team wanted to **thank you** all for the opportunity to serve and represent the DFR Department, City of Dallas, and State of Texas



Questions?



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