



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VALLEJO FIREFIGHTERS JOIN BATTLE AGAINST SOUTHLAND FIRES

VALLEJO – Members of the Vallejo Fire Department have been sent to help battle the conflagration currently affecting Southern California.

“We’ve been asked to send some equipment and personnel down to assist with the firefighting, and have done just that,” said Vallejo Fire Chief Don Parker. “We got the call on Friday afternoon and had personnel on the way by Saturday.”

Assistant Chief LaMonte Morris, Firefighter David Urrutia and one Engine Company have been sent to assist with the fight, Parker said. Morris, who left Saturday, will serve as Strike Team Leader, while Urrutia – who left Saturday night - will be part of the Overhead Management Team. The engine company dispatched Sunday will assist with structural protection in San Diego.

At least 13 people have died in the state's deadliest conflagrations in more than a decade, an estimated 30,000 homes were endangered and more than 825 already have been destroyed. The blazes had charred more than 330,000 acres, or 500 square miles — almost half the size of the state of Rhode Island — of dense, dry brush and trees. More than 7,000 firefighters battled the spreading flames.

“In times of emergency we all need to help,” City Manager David Martinez said. “Our firefighters are trained to go into dangerous situations like this. We need to help out when situations like this arise.”