



CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS



August 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As firefighters, we are part of a larger family, united in service. When one firefighter falls in the line of duty, every firefighter mourns the loss. Seldom have we felt this pain so acutely as we have these past several months. The loss of so many of our brothers in separate incidents is heartbreaking. These losses are a sobering reminder of the risks we face when we don our turnouts.

The spirit of duty, honor and sacrifice at the heart of our profession is embodied in California Firefighters Memorial in Sacramento. Each year, we gather in tribute to our fallen brothers and sisters at the annual **California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony**. This year's Memorial Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, September 29, 2018, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm** at the California Firefighters Memorial in Sacramento. Thirty-eight (38) names will be added to those of over 1,300 firefighters who have fallen in the line of duty since California became a state.

Every California firefighter should be a part of this important and meaningful ceremony, preferably in person but at minimum in spirit. That is why we are urging the California fire service to again participate in the Third Annual **Firefighters Memorial Safety Stand Down**. Firefighters can participate in one of two ways:

- **Participate in the California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony:** All fire departments and local firefighter unions are urged to mobilize available off-duty personnel and equipment to attend the Memorial Ceremony on September 29th and be a part of the Uniformed Firefighters Procession. Class A dress uniforms are requested for the procession. Equipment will be staged along the procession route. Details are at www.cafirefoundation.org/memorial.
- **Stand Down to view the Memorial online.** All firefighters unable to be at the Sacramento memorial are urged to participate in a **safety stand down** at their fire stations on September 29, 2018 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm to view the Memorial online. The ceremony will be streamed live through the **California Fire Foundation** as well as via Facebook Live. Streaming and other information is at www.cafirefoundation.org/memorial.

Every California firefighter should have the opportunity to be a part of this annual tribute. We owe it to our fallen, and the families they leave behind, to be there – in person, if possible or online when duty calls.

Please join us in helping to make this tribute worthy of those we honor, and memorable for the families that have given so much.

Fraternally,

Brian K. Rice
President
California Professional Firefighters

Mark Hartwig
President
California Fire Chiefs Association