



# CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS



August 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As firefighters, we are part of a larger family, united in service. We work side-by-side with our brother and sister firefighters. And when one of us falls in the line of duty, every firefighter mourns the loss.

In California, this spirit of duty, honor and sacrifice is embodied in the California Firefighters Memorial in Sacramento. There, in October of each year, our profession gathers in a tribute to our fallen brothers and sisters at the annual **California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony**. The Memorial and the Memorial Ceremony are funded by the California Fire Foundation.

For those of us who have participated, the California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony is more than an event. It is a part of our sacred responsibility to “never forget” those who have given their all, and give comfort to the families they leave behind. It is also an annual reminder of the hazards of our profession, and the need for vigilance in protecting our safety and health.

This year’s Memorial Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, October 15, 2016, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the California Firefighters Memorial in Sacramento**. Twenty-nine (29) names will be added to those of nearly 1,300 firefighters who have fallen in the line of duty since California became a state. As representatives of both rank-and-file and fire management, we believe it is important that every California firefighter have the opportunity to participate in this event.

- **Attend the California Firefighters Memorial:** All fire departments and local firefighter unions are asked to mobilize available off-duty personnel and equipment to attend the Memorial Ceremony and participate in the Uniformed Firefighters Procession. All personnel are asked to come in Class A dress uniform to be part of the Uniformed Firefighters Procession. Equipment will be staged along the procession route. Full information on the ceremony can be found at [memorial.cafirefoundation.org](http://memorial.cafirefoundation.org).
- **Firefighters Memorial Safety Stand-Down.** In conjunction with the California Office of Emergency Services, we are urging all firefighters unable to attend in person to participate in a “Stand Down” on October 15th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm to view the Memorial. The ceremony will be made available via a live web cast through Cal-OES and the California Fire Foundation, enabling even those on the fire lines and in their stations to be a part of honoring our fallen. Webcast details and further information on the Safety Stand Down will be available soon via email and at [memorial.cafirefoundation.org](http://memorial.cafirefoundation.org).

The California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony has been a touchstone for our profession for more than a decade. We believe every California firefighter should have the opportunity to be a part of this annual tribute – 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lou Paulson'.

Lou Paulson  
President, California Professional Firefighters

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey M. Hansen'.

Tracey M. Hansen  
President, California Fire Chiefs Association