

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017

CONTACT:

Mónica Muñoz at 619-807-4808 or munozm@sandiego.gov

San Diego Fire-Rescue Prepares for Upcoming Storm

ADDITIONAL FIREFIGHTERS & LIFEGUARDS AVAILABLE FOR STORM-RELATED EMERGENCY CALLS

San Diego – In anticipation of the impending storm set to arrive on Friday, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) will add additional firefighters, lifeguards and equipment to the schedule. Staffing allocations will be made based upon the hour-to-hour weather reports. In addition, we will closely monitor areas of the city that are historically prone to flooding.

"Our firefighters and lifeguards will be ready to provide emergency services to all communities in our city," said Chief Brian Fennessy. "Swift water rescue teams will also be outfitted with chainsaws because the storm may bring high winds which could cause trees to fall."

SDFD will have the following resources available as needed:

- Nine lifeguard and one fire fighter swift water rescue teams
- Two urban search and rescue apparatus staffed with four firefighters
- Two Fire-Rescue helicopters and one type-1 Swift Water Rescue team with state response capability
- Activation of the San Diego Urban Area (SDUA) All-Hazards Incident Management
 Team and Department Operations Center as needed

SDFD recommends that the public avoid flood-prone areas if possible. San Diego residents and visitors are also encouraged to take these simple steps necessary to protect themselves from injury and their property from storm damage:

- Obey all warning signs and barricades.
- Do not walk through flowing water. It takes just a small amount of water to knock you off your feet.
- Never drive through flooded areas where you cannot see the pavement.
- If you become stranded in your car by moving water, stay with your vehicle and move to the hood or roof if water continues to rise.
- Listen to weather reports to get updates on conditions in your area or direction of travel.

For more information and updates, follow us on Twitter @sdfd @CityofSanDiego or on the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Facebook page.

###