



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, April 11, 2024

City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Offers Eighth Annual Girls Empowerment Camp

**MEDIA INVITED TO DAY ONE OF POPULAR CAMP AIMED AT
ENCOURAGING YOUTH TO PURSUE PUBLIC SAFETY CAREERS**

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego’s Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) is preparing to kick off its eighth annual Girls Empowerment Camp, offering a unique opportunity for teens to explore a potential career in public safety. This free camp is scheduled for April 13 and 14, 2024, at the SDFD training facility in Point Loma. Teens were required to register in March and all available spots were filled within a few days.

“Camp participants will learn valuable skills while spending two days with professional firefighters and lifeguards,” said Fire-Rescue Chief Colin Stowell. “The organizers of the Girls Empowerment Camp have done an outstanding job putting together fun, challenging and meaningful activities for our eighth annual camp.”

The Girls Empowerment Camp is open to all genders ages 14 to 18. Teens learn a variety of skills from professional firefighters and lifeguards including how to perform search and rescue, hose control and how to use a chainsaw. Campers get to rappel out of a window and climb an aerial ladder onto the roof of a building. They’ll also learn CPR and basic first aid, as well as workouts that firefighters do to maintain optimal fitness during their careers.

There is no cost to the participants. Girls Empowerment Camp is made possible by SDFD, the [San Diego Fire Rescue Foundation](#) and private donations/sponsors, and is organized and run by firefighters from San Diego and volunteers from agencies throughout California. The idea for the camp originated with the Los Angeles Fire Department, which hosted a few female SDFD firefighters at their event six years ago.

WHAT: Media availability

WHO: David Gerboth, Assistant Fire Chief, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department
Amber Taddeo, Fire Engineer/Paramedic, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department
Robyn Disher, Fire Engineer/Paramedic, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

WHEN: Saturday, April 13, 7 – 11 a.m.

WHERE: SDFD Training Facility
2580 Kincaid Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Interstate 5 to North Harbor Drive. North Harbor Drive to McCain Road. Take McCain Road until it ends and turns to the left. The training building will be in front of you. You will see a barricade blocking one side of McCain Road. It's acceptable to drive around this barricade.

Park along the red curb. Please be mindful not to obstruct fire apparatus.

VISUALS: SDFD GEC instructors will offer reporters the opportunity to try on turnouts, rappel out of a window and go through a confidence course.

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