



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

TURLOCK TO RECEIVE ITS FIRST OES FIRE ENGINE

Celebration to accept apparatus scheduled

Turlock Fire Department will be hosting an acceptance ceremony and reception at Station #1 on February 18, 2016, starting at 1:30 p.m. The new OES Type 1 Engine is a first for Turlock and comes after almost a year-long application and approval process with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

The California Office of Emergency Services' mission is to assist the State of California in providing firefighting equipment strategically imbedded with local government fire departments that can be mobilized quickly to respond to local and state emergencies such as major fires, earthquakes, tsunamis, hazardous materials and other disasters. As with other cities, the distinctive "safety yellow" engine is assigned to Turlock through a cooperative agreement and will reside at Turlock Fire Station #2. In addition to responding to regional and statewide emergencies, the new apparatus can be used to respond to local incidents and emergencies just like any of the other Turlock Fire Department's apparatus and staffed by Turlock firefighters.

“This new OES engine is an exciting first for our Fire Department,” remarked Mayor Gary Soiseth. “Not only will this new engine help support our firefighting mission here in the community, but allows our firefighters to respond in support of other regional and statewide disasters.”

Turlock Fire Chief Robert Talloni echoed the sentiment when he remarked that, “we are proud to host this OES Engine and staff it with our Turlock City Firefighters in order to be part of the larger statewide firefighting team.”

Cal-OES has 114 Type 1 fire engines distributed throughout the state. A Type 1 fire engine is defined by its capabilities that include that it has 1,000 gallon water capacity, staffed by four firefighters and is primarily equipped to be used for structure protection. This engine is one of four placed in Stanislaus County. The engine will have other specialized equipment making it suitable for a statewide response at a moment's notice. Some of the specialized equipment includes technical rope rescue and Wildland firefighting equipment.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Division is responsible for the development, implementation and coordination of the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan. The Office of Emergency Services is often referred to as Cal-OES or OES. Cal-OES began as the State War Council in 1943. It was officially recognized as OES in 1970. Cal-OES has continued to evolve to respond to new threats and works closely with Homeland Security. The engine is on LOAN from the Operations section under Cal OES Fire and Rescue Division. The Operations Section coordinates response through the Mutual Aid system. For more information on Cal-OES visit their website at <http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions>.

The event will occur rain or shine and the media and public are invited to attend.

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