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Attn: Supervisor Jeff Gorell and Municipal Advisory Committees

- Fourth of July fireworks caused four small brush fires that were quickly extinguished, including one in Thousand Oaks. A day earlier, fireworks were involved in a house fire in Simi Valley that claimed the life of one resident. All fireworks are illegal to buy, possess and use in Ventura County outside the city limits of Fillmore, where "safe and sane" fireworks are allowed. Illegal fireworks activity often continues for several days to two weeks after July 4. The Ventura County Fire Department encourages anyone who still has fireworks to surrender them, no questions asked, at any sheriff's office, police station or fire station where they will be collected by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad for safe disposal.
- Junior Fire Academy will give girls and boys age 13 to 15 a taste of what it's like to be a firefighter this month. Three, five-day sessions will be held, starting July 14, 21 and 28, respectively. Junior Fire Academy is held at the department's Regional Training Center in Camarillo. Among the activities, participants will learn to dig fire lines, rappel from a building, put out fire with hoses and shovels, and operate in confined spaces.
- Rescue Ambulance 42 is now in service in Moorpark. Paramedics on the rescue ambulance can provide transport services when an ambulance is not available in a timely fashion by the existing provider. Additionally, those paramedics can support calls in north Thousand Oaks, which is one of VCFD's busiest areas of the county.

Sincerely,

Scott Thomsen

Director of Communications and Public Affairs

Ventura County Fire Department