

# URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CA-TF6 NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2015



*Division Chief Steve McKinster*

## *The First Ten Months*

The first ten months has passed quickly and we have been busy.

Our Task Forces is beginning the process of documenting our policies, procedures in accordance with FEMA and City Policies and Procedures. This is time consuming process but when finalized will allow for a more efficient and effective transition of personnel without information being lost.

As we began the process we have discovered ways to streamline processes, which is make the Program Office more effective and organized.

## *Check-In MOB Drill*

*August 26 and August 29th, 2015*

Deployment under any circumstances can be stressful and chaotic. With literally over a hundred members including the five participating agencies most have not experienced an actual deployment during their time on the Task Force. For that reason, a Check-In Drill was designed to provide Check-In experience to the Task Force. The exercise took each member through the entire Check-In process. Plans Specialist took on the task of assigning and verifying deployment status and updated essential database information. Communications Specialists did a mock distributions of radios and equipment. Logistics personnel coordinated the inventory and update of Red Bags and Logistics processes.

The two day checkout drill implemented many new phases to the process. Chief McKinster has delegated operational responsibilities to the position leaders in order to streamline the process and be more effective. Both drills were a huge success, the changes to documentation and the processes proved to be beneficial. We expect changes will continue however, the overall and immediate response from participants has been positive.

Retired firefighter and resident photographer Bob Markin came in and photographed everyone. New ID cards will be issued to each member. Clothing and Protective equipment deficiencies were identified. The Check-In drill identified minor gabs in the Mobilization process and shortfalls in clothing and protective gear. From the drill the Mobilization guide has been updated and \$45,000 of Task Force uniforms and protective gear have been ordered.

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- Quarterly Drill (MOBEX)
- Quarterly Drill (Medical)
- Canine Corner
- SCT Training
- Technical Rope Rescue Training

### Training

- ◇ Scheduled Quarterly Drills
- ◇ Canine Evaluation Course April 2016

Please contact Carol Blake for input or comments regarding this newsletter at 951-826-5827

**QUARTERLY  
DRILL  
MEDICAL**

**URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE**

Medical Specialist play a critical role within the Task Force. The Medical Team consists of two physicians and four paramedics. They have received specialized training to treat victims who have been trapped and / or crushed in rubble and debris.



At this training, they were practicing amputations and patient packaging.



**CANINE  
EVENTS**

Two of our CA-TF6 Canine Search personnel, Sharon Gattas and Peter Sellas were deployed by the San Bernardino Sheriffs Department <http://www.ktvu.com/news/21763754-story#> *this may take a moments to load and will have a commercial prior to the actual broadcast.*

The canine team continues to grow and develop. The teams dedication to excellence does not go unnoticed. During one of the Quarterly Drill the team gave a demonstration to the public during the Fire Prevention Month. The canines are always at the top of the list.

Congratulations to Tim Odebralski and Katrina Kurth for passing the Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation in Ohio. These tests are not easy and the work that goes into preparing is extensive. Congratulations!



**KINSEY**



**ROOKE**

Thanks again to the Canine Team for your dedication to the Task Force.

CA-TF6 will be hosting a national Canine Search Specialist Certification Evaluation in April 2016. Plans are being developed for the test. Thanks to the Task Force personnel that are planning this national training for the FEMA canine system.

## STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE TECHNICIAN COURSE

CA-TF6 hosted an eight day FEMA Structural Collapse Course on the Emergency Operations Training Grounds in late September and early October.

Twenty-two students from several agencies attended an eight day Structural Collapse Technician Course at the City of Riverside Training Center.

The course was a full scale SCT course with certified instructors and 22 students .

This was an 8-day/80-hour course designed to teach various skills and techniques utilized by Rescue Specialist during structural collapse operations. The course is mentally and physically challenging and required 100% participation.



**STRUCTURAL  
COLLAPSE  
TECHNICIAN  
COURSE**

The course included:

- Rescuer Safety
- Structural Engineering Systems
- Building Construction as Related to Disaster Situations
- Rescue Operations Strategy and Tactics
- Rescue Operational Procedures
- Rescue Support Operations
- Breaching and Breaking Operations with Concrete and Steel Structures
- Lifting and Moving Operations
- Emergency Building Shoring



# US&R Training

## ADVANCED ROPE TECHNICIAN COURSE



The Task Force hosted an Advanced Rope Rescue Course in November 2015 at Ben Clark Training Center. The course taught the new Rescue Specialists Task Force members about the advance rope rescue techniques. The course was a full three days of training. Thanks to Billy Milligan for getting this course scheduled and delivered for the Task Force and the Task Force instructors for making this course a success.



## *US&R Training*

### **QUARTERLY DRILL TRAINING SCHEDULE**

The Task Force will notify Participating Agency Representative and Discipline Manager of any changes to the calendar.

Discipline / Month	March	June	September	December
Rescue	3rd	1st	10th	1st
Medical	22nd	16th	5th	5th
Plans	12th	6th	12th	7th
Logistics	8-11,14-17*	3rd	16th	13th
Safety	4th	14th	7th	9th
Hazmat	21st	10th	23rd	8th
Search	7th	1st	19th	5th
Canine	7th	1st	19th	1st
Structural Engineers	12th	6th	10th	1st
Comms	24th	8th	14th	15th