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**For Immediate Release**

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## **El Camino Fire Academy Plans Graduation Ceremony**

The El Camino Fire Academy has planned its spring graduation ceremony complete with live firefighting drills at 10 a.m. June 3 at the El Camino Fire Training Center, located off campus at 200 West Beach Avenue in Inglewood.

Graduates of the highly regarded academy have completed the rigorous firefighter training program, which includes 400 hours at the state-approved fire academy. They are now eligible for Firefighter I certification.

The El Camino Fire Academy graduation ceremony will feature several action-packed demonstrations featuring student work, including rappelling from a five-story building, controlling a fully involved vehicle fire where graduates pull up with sirens blaring to put it out, and a dealing with a full-blown building fire which students will also contain.

An open house is also on the agenda, where family and friends can tour the facility.

The El Camino Fire Academy, formerly known as the South Bay Fire Academy, has trained firefighters for service in South Bay fire departments for more than 50 years. Graduates of the El Camino Fire Academy have been hired throughout the county, state and nation.

The Academy's core content meets the highest level of firefighter training. Physical fitness requirements for each recruit are both strenuous and demanding, exceeded only by the high academic standards.

The Inglewood facility features a 30-seat classroom and an engine room. Three Class A diesel pumpers and a truck company are on hand for student training. The drill grounds include a four-story fire rescue training tower; a fire environment building where students combat live fires; and three Swede System Flashover Training Containers for flashover training.

Academy instructors are from the Los Angeles area and represent nearly a dozen different professional fire departments. In addition, many instructors are training officers in their own departments.

Graduates of the El Camino Fire Academy receive California State Fire Marshal Certificates in the following areas: fire control, auto extrication, confined space awareness, and HAZMAT first responder operational. They also receive El Camino College certification in wild land firefighting, blood born pathogens, flashover training, and trench rescue awareness.

For more information about the El Camino Fire Academy, call 310-660-6589.

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