



NEWS

El Camino College | Public Relations & Marketing Department
16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Contact: Ann M. Garten, Director, Community Relations
Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | E-Mail: agarten@elcamino.edu

****MEDIA ADVISORY ****

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 for 10 a.m. April 22 at the El Camino Fire Academy, 206 West Beach Street, Inglewood, CA 90302.

The El Camino Fire Academy graduation ceremony will feature several action-packed demonstrations highlighting 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 dealing with a full-blown building fire, which students will also contain.

An open house is also on the agenda, where visitors can tour the facility.

This has been a banner year for the fire academy, highlighted by three significant donations to the program. One generous donation came from the El Segundo Fire Department in the form of a “retired” air filter station. The cost for this particular equipment in new condition is approximately \$40,000.

The Torrance Fire Department also made a recent contribution to the Fire Academy – numerous Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) to be used in training. In this instance, fire departments in the Los Angeles area received a grant to replace existing SCBAs. As a result, most of the cities have either donated or sold their existing SCBA's. This recent donation includes more than 110 units and 230 bottles, a value of approximately \$200,000. In addition, Northrop Grumman recently donated a fire truck to the academy.

The fire departments and Northrop Grumman have been consistent partners with the El Camino Fire Academy for many years, often donating essential equipment that helps keep the academy up-to-date in regard to training equipment. This kind of support contributes to the academy's ability to offer the highest level of firefighter training.

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 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 certification in wild land firefighting, blood born pathogens, flashover training, and trench rescue awareness.

For more information about the El Camino Fire Academy, call 310-660-3593, Ext. 6589, or go to www.elcamino.edu/fire_academy.

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