

Forest Service News

USDA Forest Service

San Bernardino National Forest

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Memorial Service for Five Fallen Forest Service Firefighters Set for Sunday

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. – The men of San Bernardino National Forest Engine 57 who gave their lives last week will be honored tomorrow in a memorial service to be held at the Hyundai Pavilion at Glen Helen. The memorial is open to the public and is expected to last approximately 90 minutes.

The service commemorates the sacrifice of Mark Loutzenhiser, Jess McLean, Jason McKay, Daniel Hoover-Najera and Pablo Cerda whose engine was overrun by flames while protecting a home in the San Jacinto Mountains on Oct. 26.

The service includes musical tributes and traditional ceremonial presentations beginning with the US Forest Service Honor Guard posting of the colors. The program also includes a presentation of a traditional firefighter helmet to each family, the ceremonial final ringing of the bell, and a tribute flyover of US Forest Service and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection aircraft. The memorial will conclude with a traditional playing of “Amazing Grace” by a US Forest Service Honor Guard Bagpiper.

Speakers at the memorial include Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger; Senator Dianne Feinstein; Representatives Jerry Lewis, Mary Bono, and Joe Baca; USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources Mark Rey; Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth; Forest Service Regional Forester Bernie Weingardt; Forest Service Fire and Aviation Director Tom Harbour; San Bernardino National Forest Fire Chief Mike Dietrich; San Jacinto Ranger District Division Chief Norm Walker; and San Bernardino National Forest Supervisor Jeanne Wade Evans.

The Hyundai Pavilion at Glen Helen is located at 2575 Glen Helen Parkway, San Bernardino, located near the junction of I-15 and I-215. State transportation officials confirmed I-15 will remain open for the memorial; however Forest Service officials anticipate a large crowd and recommend those attending to arrive early. General parking will be at Gate 1.

Due to security, Hyundai Pavilion officials discourage attendees from bringing backpacks, duffel bags and other similar bags. Purses, camera bags and small handbags are allowed.

The following television networks will broadcast the entire Engine 57 Memorial Service live online beginning at 1 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, 4 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The replays will be available on their sites.

NBC 4 News

www.nbc4.tv

CBS 2 News

www.cbs2.com

ABC 7 News

www.abclocal.go.com/kabc

Several area stations will broadcast various segments of the memorial service live on television, but not in its entirety.

All San Bernardino National Forest offices will be closed on Sunday in observance of the Engine 57 Memorial Service.

For more information regarding the ceremony contact the San Bernardino National Forest Engine 57 Support line at (909) 383-5501.

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