
FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Date Of Release: 07/02/2021
Fire Incident Number: 21-0055392
Incident Commander: Battalion Chief Matt Brock
Incident Type: Remote rescue – injured hiker
Date/Time of Incident: 11:13 am, 07/02/2021
Incident Location: Ventura, CA - Arroyo Verde Park trail system
Cause/Origin: Fall
Injuries Reported: 37-year-old female
Units Committed On-Scene: Medic Engine, Medic Truck, Ambulance, Battalion Chief
Ventura County Fire air squad 7
Total Fire Personnel On-Scene: 13
Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire, Ventura County Fire

Narrative: Ventura City Fire and AMR EMS units were dispatched to a report of an injured hiker in the hills above Arroyo Verde Park in the city of Ventura. Emergency personnel responded and arrived to find a 37-year-old female with a serious leg injury needing to be rescued from her remote location. Firefighters hiked to the injured hiker's location and provided EMS treatment and stabilization. Assistance was requested from the Ventura County Fire air operations unit. An "Air squad - advanced life support equipped helicopter was dispatched and provided an air lift and transfer to a waiting ground ambulance. The patient was transported via that ground ambulance to Ventura County Medical Center for further care. The hiker is expected to make a full and complete recovery.

The Ventura City Fire Department is committed to working with the City's Safe & Clean Program and regional partners to address any ongoing life-safety and property threats posed by homeless encampments in Ventura. Fires can occur in the river bottom because of unsheltered individuals living in the area who use fire for warmth and cooking. These fires can grow quickly and produce a lot of smoke because of strong winds, dry brush, fuel, and tall grasses.

The City's Safe and Clean program continues to work on long-term housing solutions and provides preventative resources for our most vulnerable populations. Safe & Clean works proactively with the Ventura Police Patrol Task Force, the Ventura City Fire Department, various social service providers, and community partners to clean up brush and debris in the riverbeds. City staff also visits these areas weekly to share education, health, and social services to unsheltered individuals, who legally, cannot be relocated from the river bottom to a safer location.

Due to HIPAA we are prevented from disclosing an individual's protected health information (PHI). We may not release information regarding patient's names, DOB, address, SS# or medical status. All photos are free from copyright and may reproduced as necessary.