

Beach and Pier Evacuations Due To Lightning

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07/18/2015

MEDIA RELEASE

Incident Number: 15-0047498

Information Contact: Kris McDonald, Battalion Chief, 805-339-4300

Incident Type: Beach & Pier Evacuations Due To Lightning

Date/Time of Incident: July 18th, 2015, 14:16 hours

Incident Location: Ventura Beaches - Surfer's Point to Surfer's Knoll

Cause: Inclement Weather

Injuries: None Reported

Fire Equipment: 3 ALS Engine Companies, 2 Command

Total Fire Personnel: 11

Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire Department, Ventura County Fire Department, Ventura Police Department, State Lifeguards, Ventura Harbor Patrol, American Medical Response

Ventura City Fire personnel responded to assist State Lifeguards and Ventura PD with evacuations of the beach & surf areas between Surfer's Knoll and Surfer's Point, as well as with the closure of the Ventura Pier, due to lightning strikes observed in the area. As the storm cell moved past Ventura the beaches were once again opened, however the pier remains closed. Additional storm cells and lightning are forecast to move through the area over the next several hours. Informational sign boards are being placed to inform beach-goers of the potential risks, and we are encouraging all people to exercise caution during episodes of dark clouds, heavy rain, and high winds. Exact duration of the pier closure is unknown, and no injuries were reported at the time of this release.

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