

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RANCHO SANTA FE FOUNDATION
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COMMUNITY EVENT TO HONOR FIRST RESPONDERS

"Today's event is about a community coming together to show its appreciation to the First Responders and to each other for support and assistance in the aftermath of the October Wildfires" said Jack Baca, Senior Pastor of the Village Church and the M.C. for the day.

Gathered at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe were more than 100 residents of the various communities that make up the RSF Fire Protection District. Besides the time for personally thanking the First Responders who were in attendance and the time for fellowship with friends and neighbors, the Inn at Rancho Santa Fe was host for light refreshments and the Peter Popping Quartet provided entertainment.

Jim Ashcraft, President of the Board of Directors of the RSF Fire Protection District, thanked Reverend Baca and the Village Church for their work in providing food and lodging to the firefighters who were working in our area so that they did not have to travel to the other staging areas farther away. He thanked Kerman Beriker and Duncan Hadden from The Inn for housing the personnel from the National Guard and also for providing food to the First Responders. He acknowledged Pete Smith and the RSF Association and Matt Wellhouser with the RSF Patrol for assisting with the work with the Sheriff's Department. He extended a very special thank you to the people in the community, especially the Village Church and the Fire Recovery Coordinating Committee, who assisted the fire victims with short term financial assistance, bikes and toys from the Tony Hawk Foundation and so very much more from individuals in the community.

Fire Chief Nick Pavone made several presentations to those in the community who had been recognized. He presented Jack Baca and the Village Church, Kerman Beriker and The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe and Christy Wilson of the RSF Foundation and the Fire Recovery Coordinating Committee with a framed reproduction of a lithograph entitled "San Diego Heroes".