

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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To whom it may concern,

On behalf of CAL FIRE San Diego and San Diego County Fire, I am writing in support of “The Red Guide to Recovery”, an invaluable asset that helps the public prepare for, and recover from emergencies that ultimately impacts their homes, families and communities. This “user-friendly” guidebook is a powerful tool that provides help in the recovery process, assists with how to initiate insurance claims, ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and how to avoid fraud and abuse which has the potential to victimize survivors of catastrophic events.

CAL FIRE San Diego and San Diego County Fire responds to a large number of wildland fires and other emergencies each year that cause displacement of families, significant structural damage or sometimes both. Once an emergency is mitigated, it is not uncommon for our firefighters to hear the comment, “What do we do now?” This question is very easily answered by providing a copy of the “Red Guide to Recovery.” It provides a “roadmap to recovery” and provides tools that help with rebuilding lives following a disaster. This is why we make every attempt to carry copies on all of our fire apparatus.

On behalf of CAL FIRE San Diego and San Diego County Fire, we offer our full support of this publication. We support the distribution of the Guide to citizens that will ultimately improve outcomes and enhance preparedness in communities throughout the State.

Sincerely,

Kendal E. Bortisser
Fire Captain/Public Information Officer
CAL FIRE San Diego