



## **ADVISORY REGARDING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRES 06 December 2017**

The Philippine Consulate General informs all Filipinos and Filipino-Americans that based on information from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Ventura County Fire Department and Los Angeles Fire Department, there are four active fires in Southern California.

### **Thomas Fire**

Based on information from the Ventura County Fire Department, the Thomas Fire continues to burn actively with extreme rates of spread and long range spotting when pushed by winds. Firefighters continue to work aggressively to protect life and property while working on control efforts around the fire perimeter. The fire is currently estimated at 65,000 acres with 0% containment and is being pushed by strong east winds.

According to the county website, Casitas Municipal Water District has issued a boil water order for the Upper Ojai Valley, Casitas Springs, Foster Park and entire City of Ventura due to loss of pressure and water supply from the fire related power outages. All tap water used for drinking and cooking should be boiled to a rolling boil for approximately 1 minute. This is the preferred method to ensure water is safe to drink.

The County of Ventura, City of Santa Paula and City of Ventura remain in a state of local emergency.

### **Creek Fire**

Mandatory evacuations remain in place within the zone of the north of the 210 Freeway from (eastern border) La Crescenta to (western border) Glenoaks Blvd off ramp / Sombrero Canyon. Mandatory evacuations are also in place for south of the 210 Freeway between Sunland to the south, Wentworth to the north and Wheatland to the west.

There are more than 900 firefighters assigned to the Creek Fire to assist with structure protection and firefighting operations. 150,000 residents have been evacuated. Damage assessment teams are on location with reports of at least 30 structures damaged.

### **Rye Fire**

A brush fire located at 25101 Rye Canyon Loop in the City of Santa Clarita began and has affected 7, 000 acres with 5% containment. 775 firefighters are on-scene to help with structure protection and firefighting operations.

Based on the Santa Clarita Sheriff's Facebook page, evacuations have been lifted for the Valencia Travel Village, located at 27946 Henry Mayo Drive, Castaic. Residents may return to their homes. There are no other areas in Santa Clarita Valley under evacuation orders at this time, and no road closures in effect. Evacuation centers have been set up at the following locations: Valencia High School (500 Bradford Ave., Placentia) and College of the Canyons (26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd., Santa Clarita).

## **Skirball Fire**

The Skirball Fire began today, 06 December 2017, at 4:52 a.m., at the Northbound 405 Freeway at Mulholland Drive. The fire is now at 150 acres with 0% containment. Over 350 LAFD firefighters are assigned to the Skirball Fire with additional resources from neighboring agencies. Four structures are reported damaged.

Emergency shelters have been set up at the following locations: Balboa Recreation Center (17015 Burbank Blvd, Encino); Delano Recreation Center (15100 Erwin St, Van Nuys); Westwood Recreation Center (1350 S Sepulveda Bl); Van Nuys Recreation Center (14301 Vanowen St) Cheviot Hills Recreation Center (2551 Motor Ave, Cheviot Hills)

LA County Public Health has issued an advisory regarding unhealthy air quality in the San Fernando Valley and LA County Coastal Areas which can be found in this link:

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/media/mediapubhpdetail.cfm?prid=1778>.

Southern California Air Quality Management District has issued a Smoke Advisory for the San Fernando Valley, including Sylmar and Lake View Terrace which can be seen in this link: <ftp://ftp.aqmd.gov/pub/globalist/Advisory2.pdf>.

The Philippine Consulate General reiterates its advice to all kababayans in the affected areas to undertake all necessary precautions and take heed of the warning and orders of local authorities.

For the Thomas Fire, list of the areas ordered for mandatory and voluntary evacuations, shelters, school closures and road closures, can be found at the Ventura County website through this link: <http://www.readyventuracounty.org/>. For updates on the Thomas Fire, please check the Twitter Feed of the Ventura County Fire Department (@VCFD); or call the incident information hotline at (805) 465-6650.

For the Creek and Skirball Fires, please check the social media accounts and Twitter Feed of the Los Angeles Fire Department (@LAFD, @lacofdpio & @LACo\_FD) and follow the Los Angeles Police Department's Twitter account (@LAPDFoothill). For more information, please contact the Los Angeles Fire Department's Public Information Office at (323) 881-2413.

For the Rye Fire, updates can be found at the social media accounts of the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Department via Twitter at <https://twitter.com/SCVSHERIFF> or via Facebook; <https://www.facebook.com/SantaClaritaValleySheriffsStation/>

In case of a life-threatening emergency, please call 9-1-1 immediately. For any assistance, the Philippine Consulate General may be reached at its emergency hotline: 1 (213) 268-9990 or ATN hotline at 1 (213) 587-0758. **END**