



MEDIA ADVISORY

Today's Date: May 4, 2015

District: 7--Los Angeles/Ventura

Contact: Patrick Chandler

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans Workers Memorial: A Day To Remember

WHO: Carrie Bowen, District 7 Director
Debbie Wong, District 7 Deputy Director of Maintenance
Reginald Chappelle, CHP Coastal Division Chief
Dustin Gardner, Ventura County Fire Department Chief
Paul Flores, International Union of Operator Engineers
John Vassiliades, Professional Engineers in California Government

WHAT: Workers Memorial is held to remember and recognize Caltrans employees who were killed in the line of duty.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 6, 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: West Region Maintenance Station
4821 Adohr Lane
Camarillo, CA 93012

Caltrans has lost 183 employees statewide since 1921, 32 of the employees worked in District 7. Highway construction and maintenance work is one of the most dangerous occupations in the United States. In addition to the danger workers face, an estimated 85 to 90 percent of people who are killed in highway work zones are drivers and passengers. Most of these fatalities are caused by rear-end collisions, with speeding, distracted and aggressive driving the most common causes. In 2014, Caltrans launched the "Be Work Zone Alert" campaign. The campaign uses the children of actual Caltrans workers as spokespeople, underscoring the real human tragedy that happens when a highway worker is injured or killed.

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