



# News Release

## CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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### ***Highland Village Fire Department Deploys to California to Help Fight Wildfires***

The Highland Village Fire Department is able to answer California's call for assistance in fighting the wildland and forest fires. HVFD will be providing Brush 481 and Fire Equipment Operator/Paramedic Mel Harper as part of a local Strike Team.

Highland Village received the request from Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) which came from California and was sent out via the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM). The request is for Type 3 or 6 engines (brush trucks) and personnel. TDEM has authorized 50 engines to be deployed to California.

Along with Fire Equipment Operator/Paramedic Mel Harper, the HVFD apparatus will be filled out with two additional personnel, Firefighter/Paramedic Patrick Walsh of the Lake Cities Fire Department and Captain Darrin Murray of the Lewisville Fire Department. The team departed today and the deployment is set for 14 days excluding travel time.

"In the fire service we rely heavily on great partnerships with our neighboring agencies to confront emergencies. Today our partnership with Lake Cities and Lewisville is meeting the need on the west coast to assist our brothers and sisters who are fighting extreme and unprecedented wildland and forest fires," stated Fire Chief Michael Thomson. "Please keep our team in your thoughts and prayers as the travel and help those in need."