



NEWS RELEASE

Orange County Fire Authority
Community Relations & Education

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September 4, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Five Drownings in the Month of August

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Irvine, CA – Orange County Fire Authority responded to two near drowning incidents over the recent Labor Day weekend in the cities of Westminster and Stanton. In the month of August, there were ten similar accidents in Orange County – five resulted in fatalities. This brings the year-to-date totals to twenty-one drowning fatalities and twenty-three near-drowning. These tragedies occurred in public and private pools, bathtubs, and local beaches.

Even though the end of summer is at hand, we cannot let our guard down and must continue to be vigilant in preventing these accidents. The ABC's of Drowning (Adult Supervision, Barriers in Place, and Classes) will help prevent further tragedies from occurring.

OCFA offers drowning prevention and water safety classes for children and adults in the 22 cities that we serve, featuring Stewie the Duck – a fun and colorful book – along with instruction from an Education Specialist.

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The Orange County Fire Authority is a joint powers authority that serves more than 1.3 million residents in 22 cities and the unincorporated areas of the county.