



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
Public Information Office

9/20/2011

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Media Advisory

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1500 Hrs

For Immediate Release PST  
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**San Francisco Fire Department's 4th Annual Alcatraz Swim**  
**Friday, September 23, 2011**

**(San Francisco, September 20, 2011)** Approximately 75 people, including active and retired San Francisco Firefighters, will be diving into the chilly waters of the San Francisco Bay at 9 AM on Friday, September 23, 2011. The Annual Alcatraz Swim is held to raise money for the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation, which works to raise awareness of the high rate of Firefighting-related cancers.

The San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation was founded by a retired SF Firefighter who, while on the job, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.

Research shows that 1 in 3 retired SF Firefighters either has had or currently has cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to screen active Firefighters for various forms of cancer through annual testing. Early detection is key to the outcome of the patient.

**MEDIA OPPORUNITY**

**8:00AM** Swimmers will meet at the South End Rowing Club

**(Swim Event Coordinator, Captain Dave Ritter)**

**8:45AM** Swimmers will be transported to Alcatraz by the Fireboat and the Fire Department Rescue Watercraft

**9:00 AM -10:45AM** Swim