



*SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT*  
Public Information Office

04/17/08

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Media Advisory

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1300 Hrs

For Immediate Release PST

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**“Commemorate, Celebrate, Educate”**

**102<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the  
Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906**

**(San Francisco, April 17, 2008)** - The San Francisco Fire Department, along with other early risers, will be commemorating the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906 at an annual commemoration ceremony being held at the historic *Lotta's Fountain* in downtown San Francisco.

The event, which begins precisely at 5:12 AM, the exact time the 1906 earthquake struck the sleeping city of San Francisco is, “the time that we San Franciscans commemorate those who suffered great losses and to celebrate the spirit and resolve of the people of San Francisco who overcame the devastation of that historical day and rebuilt this great City.” said Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White. “This is also a time to educate and remind all people of the importance of disaster preparedness.”

After the commemoration ceremony at Lotta's Fountain, a procession will be made to the infamous golden fire hydrant, on the corner of 20<sup>th</sup> and Church streets, for a re-painting ceremony. The celebrated fire hydrant is said to have been the sole source of water, used by thousands of volunteers, responsible for saving the south side of the Mission District during the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake.

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