



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
Public Information Office

04-17-2016

Media Advisory

2100 Hrs.

For Immediate Release PST
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**Annual Great Earthquake and Fire Commemoration;
Lotta's Fountain; Golden Hydrant re-painting
and the SFFD 150th Kick-Off Event**

Annual Lotta's Fountain and Gold Hydrant Painting Commemoration Events

On Monday, April 18, 2016, the San Francisco Fire Department, along with other early risers, will be commemorating the 110th 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 at 4:30 AM, highlights a presentation 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 celebrate the spirit and resolve of the people of San Francisco who overcame the devastation on 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 20th and Church streets, for the annual 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 this area of the City during the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake.

At 7:30 A.M., San Francisco youths Leo Schutzendorf and Teresa Y. Lee will be recognized as the winners of the Everyday Emergency Preparedness Essay Contest on the 110th Anniversary of the 1906 Earthquake and Fire. This will take place Lefty O'Douls Restaurant, 333 Geary Street, San Francisco ca. Anne Kronenberg, Executive Director of the Department of Emergency Management, and SFFD Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White will have breakfast with them as they read their essays and receive a check.

At 09:00 AM, the San Francisco Fire Department's 150th Anniversary Kick-Off event will be held at Union Square. The event will start with a narrated History of the SFFD, followed by a Presentation of the Colors by the SFFD Color Guard and bagpiper. Guest speakers and Dignitaries will give remarks with a display of vintage fire apparatus in the background. In conclusion, a demonstration of the historical SFFD 65' wooden ladder raise will be presented.

"The San Francisco Fire Department has been an integral partner with PG&E in San Francisco since our founding. When disaster strikes, courageous men and women of the SFFD and PG&E show up together, ready to keep our customers and communities safe. They define what it means to be a first responder, and we're proud to extend our support to their city-wide 150th birthday celebrations," said Barry Anderson, vice president, Electric Distribution, PG&E.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Media Logistics for Lottas Fountain, Golden Hydrant and Lefty O'Douls:
(SETTING UP, LOCATIONS AND TIMES) call Lee Houskeeper at Cell: (415) 654-9141

Media Inquires for all events and SFFD 150th:
Media questions and requests please call SFFD PIO Jonathan Baxter at 415-660-0545

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