

BLUE SHEET

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

Preliminary Summary Report of Serious CAL FIRE Injuries, Illnesses, Accidents and Near-Miss Incidents



**Inmate Medical Emergency
August 18, 2012**

**Buck Incident
12-CA-RRU-080142
Accident Review Team Number
12-CA-CSR-000062**

California Southern Region

This Preliminary Summary Report is intended as an aid in accident prevention, and to provide factual information from the first 24 hours of the accident review. To that end it is published and distributed within a short time frame. Information contained within may be subject to revision as further investigation is conducted, and other reports and documents are received.

SYNOPSIS

The following is a Preliminary Accident Report of an incident where an inmate firefighter sustained a medical emergency while in the sleeping area at fire camp.

NARRATIVE

On August 18, 2012 at approximately 0530 hours, while California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Officers were waking up the crews to prepare them for the day's assignment; an inmate firefighter was discovered to be unresponsive. The officers immediately called 911 from a cell phone. The call was transferred to the CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department Emergency Command Center (ECC); the ECC then notified the Buck Fire Communications Unit of the emergency. The ECC dispatched an Advanced Life Support Ambulance to the scene. Buck Communications made all appropriate notifications as outlined in the Emergency Action Plan.

The inmate was transported to a local hospital where they underwent evaluation and treatment for his condition. Once stabilized, the inmate was transported to ICU at another hospital to receive a higher level of care and remain in custodial care.

The inmate was pronounced dead at 1230 hours on August 19, 2012.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE REVIEW

- All assigned personnel from any agency must be briefed on and follow the Incident Emergency Action Plan for fire line and in camp emergencies.
 - Supervisors must ensure instructions are clear and understood.
- Supervisors should monitor the health and welfare of their assigned personnel.