



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, January 31, 2022

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Stockton Fire Department Receiving Mutual Aid

Partner Fire Agencies Throughout the Region Voluntarily Assisting Following Tragedy

STOCKTON, Calif. – The Stockton Fire Department is receiving assistance from partner fire agencies throughout the region following the on-duty shooting death early this morning of Captain Vidal “Max” Fortuna, a twenty-one-year veteran of the department. Engine and truck companies from Cosumnes, Hayward, Lathrop, Lodi, Manteca, Modesto, Sac City, Sac Metro and Tracy, are staffing Stockton Fire stations and responding to calls for service within the community and the Stockton Fire Department service area.

“We are extremely grateful that our partners have come together to provide mutual aid to our community while we, as individuals and a department, are grieving and healing from this horrific and tragic event,” said Stockton Fire Chief Rick Edwards. “While the engine or truck may have a different name on the side, we want to let the community know that you are in good hands with professional firefighters who will be protecting and serving our community.”

Over the next several days, the City of Stockton and Stockton Fire Department will receive assistance from other agencies. Members of the Stockton Fire Department will be receiving grief counseling and planning memorial services, as well as transitioning back to staffing Stockton fire stations.

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The circumstances involving the death of Captain Fortuna are under investigation. Contact Stockton Police Department Public Information Officer Joey Silva for questions or additional information at (209) 937-8209 (office) or (209) 403-0545 (cell). For information about Stockton Fire Department operations, please call City of Stockton Community Relations Officer Connie Cochran at (209) 937-8827 (office) or (209) 629-1251 (cell).

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