

July 1, 2014

Ross Valley Fire Department
777 San Anselmo Ave.
San Anselmo, CA 94960

Dear Chief,

On May 14, 2014, at approximately 3:30 p.m., a fire that originated near Cocos Drive in San Marcos quickly became a significant event. Driven by strong northeasterly winds, hot temperatures and very low relative humidity, the fire immediately threatened the surrounding communities and required emergency resources from throughout the region and beyond. Mitigation efforts extended over the next 8 days where the Cocos Incident consumed 1,995 acres through multiple jurisdictions. Cooperation and excellent working relationships between our Unified Command partners and the California mutual aid system proved to be extremely valuable in overcoming the many challenges presented.

On behalf of the San Marcos Fire Department, I want to thank you and the Ross Valley Fire Department for sending critical resources to help assist us in protecting life, property, and the environment. Without the cooperation of your agency, the impact and magnitude of this incident would have been significantly different. Your personnel worked countless hours all while maintaining a professional and positive attitude. Please express my humble appreciation to all of your personnel for their hard work and dedication to minimizing structure loss and protecting life within our community and beyond.

Our success as a region in overcoming challenges has grown tremendously over the years. I look forward to building upon the successes learned from this incident and strengthening our working relationship for the future.

Best Regards,


Brett Van Wey
Fire Chief

Sleepy Hollow Fire Protections District
47 Legend Road
San Anselmo, Ca 94960

July 7, 2014

Chief Mark Mills
Ross Valley Fire Department
777 San Anselmo Ave
San Anselmo, CA 94960

Dear Chief Mills,

On behalf of the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for authorizing the excellent presentations given by Battalion Chief Dan Mahoney and Captain Gavin Illingworth at our District meeting on June 27, 2014. Both officers were well prepared, extremely professional, well received by the audience and brought great credit on the Department. I also had a chance to watch the performance of both officers during the recent live fire exercises. Captain Illingworth gave an excellent briefing before the drill and BC Mahoney performed very well in his role as incident commander. Finally, I want to commend BC Mahoney for spending several hours with me to help familiarize myself with the fire risk in Sleepy Hollow. He was extremely knowledgeable and very helpful.

We are very fortunate to have such a well led Fire Department to protect our community.

Rich Shortall



Treasurer


Co- signers:

Frank Berto



President

Tom Finn



Secretary

JARED HUFFMAN
2ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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July 17, 2014

Mark Mills, Chief
Ross Valley Fire Department
777 San Anselmo Ave.
San Anselmo, CA 94960

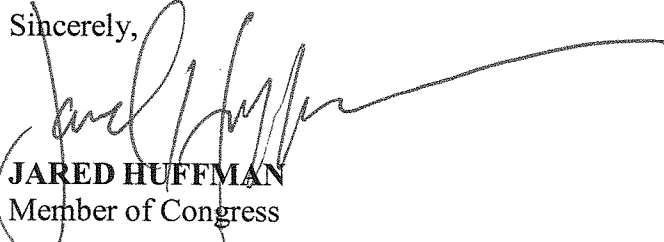
Dear Mr. Mills:

Congratulations to the Ross Valley Fire Department for receiving a \$250,389 grant from the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Program.

I hope this grant will be a valuable asset as you work to effectively protect the health and safety of our local community and emergency response personnel.

Please extend my appreciation to all who worked to make this possible and do not hesitate to contact my San Rafael District Office if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely,



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

cc: Elizabeth Brekhus, Mayor, Town of Ross
Tom McInerney, Mayor, Town of San Anselmo
David Weinsoff, Mayor, Town of Fairfax

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