



A Recruit climbs ladder to enter the training structure.



Fire Recruits help each other put on gear.



Recruits use teamwork to set up ladder.



The injured passenger is rescued without further injuries.



Recruit Hessing learns how to remove an injured passenger from an accident.



Recruit Reddick is learning the art of putting out a car fire.



A Recruit hoses down the car.



A Recruit practices cutting open the hood.



Recruits wait for their turn to practice on the burning vehicles.



A Recruit learns how to remove an injured passenger from an accident.



Recruits look up as other recruits climb to the top of the building.



Recruits remove the windshield.

# Firefighters in Training

## ■ LAFD stages media event to showcase heroes in the making.

Story by Jackie David, Public Information Director, Personnel

Photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor and Angel Gomez

FIRE DEPT. — The news media were recently treated to a unique opportunity to witness some of the training that goes into the making of a Los Angeles Firefighter: throwing ladders and hose lines, jumping into an air rescue cushion from the fourth floor, simulated building fires, three actual auto fires, auto extrication and paramedic response.

The Training and Recruitment Sections of the Los Angeles Fire Department hosted the special media event at the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center on three separate days in early January. Captain Michael Greenup and Captain Surgey Tomlinson headed up the training that included two female recruits performing some of the more challenging and difficult tasks as well as doing news media interviews in the hopes of attracting potential female candidates.

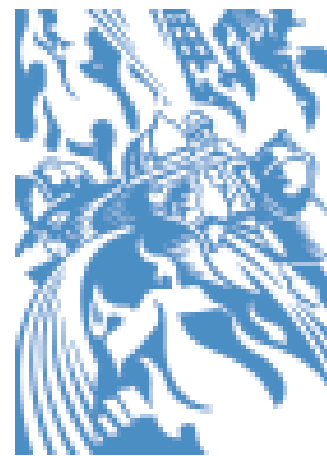
Jackie David, Public Information Director for Personnel's Public Safety group (and Alive!

columnist), coordinated the event with LAFD's Recruitment Chief Brian Cummings and Captain Darnell Wade. "It was a hands-down successful event," Jackie said. "We needed to get our message out to the community at large that the Los Angeles Fire Department is seeking qualified applicants with the hope of achieving diversity in its workforce. We appealed to the news media for help and they came: The Associated Press Television News, Getty Images Wire Service, Fox11 TV News, KFWB Radio, Hispanic Stations Univision TV News (Channel 34) and Telemundo TV News (Channel 54), the Korean Times, Television Korea 24, Asian Station KSCI TV News (Channel 18), LA's CityView (Channel 35) and Alive!. To top it off, the Fire Department was phenomenal — going above and beyond to provide the media with a great story and accompanying visuals."

The recruits are set to graduate Feb. 17 and really begin their lives as firefighters.

"I happened to compliment Getty Images photographer David McNew for his outstanding photos of our Firefighters," Jackie said. "His response? 'The Los Angeles Fire Department is a great department — with or without photos.' That says it all, doesn't it?"

**Note:** Jackie David gives special thanks and acknowledgements to LAFD's Chief Brian Cummings, Captain Darnell Wade, Captain Michael Greenup, Captain Surgey Tomlinson and the wonderful Trainers and Recruits who showcased what the Los Angeles Fire Department is truly all about: Heroes in the making.





A Recruit checks to see that water is getting to the simulated fire.

Recruits begin to remove hood from the car.



A Recruit learns how to use the saw to cut open a hood.

Recruits use axes to cut open top of the car.

A Recruit uses the "Jaws of Life" to remove the top of the car.



There's no time to waste when a car's on fire.

Recruits watch as others open the hood of the car.



A Recruit gets the hose out of the fire engine.

From left: Jackie David and Capt. Tomlinson.

Recruits climb the ladder.



Recruit Wan carries ladder back from the training structure.

Recruit Cole ensures there are no kinks in the hose.

Recruits climb the ladder.



Rescuing an injured passenger is a delicate process.

Rescuing an injured passenger requires team effort.

From left: Jackie David with recruitment captains.



Recruits insert a stretcher into the vehicle to rescue the injured passenger

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