



LAFD

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Handball Heroes

Firefighters save a man's life during a handball tournament.

Seven LAFD Firefighters combined to save the life of a man playing handball at a court near where the Firefighters were playing.

The LAFD heroes were honored Nov. 19 during a Fire Commission meeting at City Hall East. An award honoring the seven was presented by Capt. Armando Hogan.

The seven first-responder heroes are:

- Capt. II Roy Harvey, Fire Station 92
- Engineer Chris Yokoyama, Fire Station 92
- Firefighter Sal Castillon, Fire Station 81
- Firefighter Sergio Guzman, Fire Station 73
- Firefighter Alex Garcia, Fire Station 66
- Firefighter Chad Rolish, Fire Station 92, and
- Firefighter Richard Ramirez, Fire Station 22.

Each year, the Los Caballeros Sports Complex in Fountain Valley hosts the Simple Green U.S. Open of Handball. On Saturday, Oct. 26 during a doubles match, Mike Bagetta collapsed on the court. Within two or three minutes a victim was being attended to by several of these life-saving professionals. After three resuscitation attempts, they were able to revive him. Fountain Valley Fire arrive and took Bagetta to a nearby hospital.

Unquestionably, the L.A. Fire personnel saved Mike's life. Mike and Elsie Bagetta, his family and his many friends, gave their heartfelt thanks to these men for their quick response and successful application of their training.

Reportedly, the victim was doing well and playing handball six weeks after the incident. Congratulations to all the LAFD heroes!

