



NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Newport Beach, CA – November 21st, 2024 – The Newport Beach Fire Department (Nbfd) Celebrates the Completion of Probation for Six Firefighter Paramedics.

The Newport Beach Fire Department is proud to announce that six of our Firefighter Paramedics have successfully completed their 12-month probationary period. Each individual brings unique talents, backgrounds, and passions to our team, and we are thrilled to officially welcome them to the Nbfd family. Please join us in celebrating their achievements and contributions to our community.

Firefighter Paramedic Devin Persons



Devin Persons grew up and still resides in Corona, CA. A proud veteran, Devin served six years in the United States Marine Corps before pursuing a career in fire service. He earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Cal State Fullerton and his paramedic license from Riverside Community College. A devoted Anaheim Ducks fan, Devin enjoys off-roading and desert sports in his free time. With his older brother recently joining the Newport Beach Police Department, Devin's family tradition of public service continues to grow.

Firefighter Paramedic Ian Light



Ian Light, was born and raised in Long Beach, CA. He attended Santa Ana College and Saddleback College for his fire technology and paramedic training. Ian is passionate about woodworking, metalworking, and boating, and has a unique background in stand-up paddleboard racing, even completing a 32-mile relay race along the Orange County coast. We look forward to seeing him thrive in his career and personal life now that he is recently married.

Firefighter Paramedic Andrew Dunkel



Hailing from Temecula, CA, Andrew Dunkel is a Southern California native who attended Murrieta Mesa High School, Crafton Hills College for paramedic school, and Miramar College for the Firefighter I Academy. Andrew and his wife, Tatiana, were excited to welcome their first child this past June! Outside of work, Andrew enjoys Formula 1 racing, hiking with his dog Bodhi, and photography. A former white-water rafting guide, Andrew still enjoys taking friends and family rafting in Northern California.

Firefighter Paramedic Trent Cozza



Trent Cozza, is a lifelong resident of Huntington Beach, CA. He has deep ties to Newport Beach, having started as a lifeguard at 16 and later working on rescue vessels. Trent has a background in business administration and earned his paramedic certification while balancing his educational pursuits. He enjoys snowboarding, dirt biking, and spending time with family and friends. A black belt in Shuyokan Ryu Aikijutsu, Trent exemplifies dedication both on and off duty.

Firefighter Paramedic Bryan Cowles



A Yorba Linda native, Bryan Cowles has been passionate about hockey for over 20 years, rooting for teams like the LA Kings and the Red Wings. Bryan also enjoys outdoor activities such as skiing, off-roading, and camping, and he is an avid fitness enthusiast. A skilled mechanic, he loves building motors for boats and trucks and has helped run his family's custom bike shop for over a decade. Bryan's dedication to his craft and community makes him an invaluable member of Nbfd.

Firefighter Paramedic Brandon Harrison



Brandon Harrison was born in Lancaster, CA, and grew up in Murrieta, CA. Currently residing in Irvine with his fiancée Samantha and their dog Kahlua, Brandon is a proud member of the U.S. Coast Guard, serving for 11 years out of Terminal Island in Long Beach. He is a loyal fan of the Dallas Cowboys and LA Angels and enjoys staying active, traveling, and relaxing in his downtime. Brandon's military background and passion for service have made him a strong addition to the Nbfd team.

The Newport Beach Fire Department is incredibly proud to welcome these outstanding individuals to our fire family. Their diverse experiences, dedication, and passion for serving our community will undoubtedly make a lasting impact. These new members will be formally recognized in front of their families and peers at a badge pinning ceremony in the future with a date yet to be announced.

For more information, please contact the Newport Beach Fire Department via email at PIO@nbfd.net.

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