For More Information: Melissa Aquino Media Relations Officer (858) 974-2259 December 3, 2010

Update on Escondido House Burn Plan

Firefighters with the San Marcos and Escondido Fire Departments continue to clear vegetation on either side of 1954 Via Scott. The protective wall being built to the north of 1954 Via Scott could be completed today. Firefighters are also meeting with the National Weather Service (NWS) to determine the best date for the burn operation.

The Sheriff's Department, Sheriff's Bomb/Arson Unit, Escondido Police, CHP, CALTRANS and the Red Cross are finalizing evacuation, shelter and traffic plans. Flyers will be distributed to the affected areas 24 hours prior to the burn date reminding people to plan ahead. The flyers will also include a telephone number for people with special needs.

County HAZMAT will visit the site today to determine staging locations for field teams and assure access to gated communities. The debris removal plan is nearly complete and will soon be available on the Frequently Asked Questions section of www.sdcountyemergency.com. County HAZMAT is also working with the National Guard's 9th Civil Support Team to provide air plume models and daily updates of the maps. Air modeling programs will be assessed daily through the weekend as we move closer to the burn date.

On Monday, the Sheriff's Bomb/Arson Unit will be preparing the house for the eventual burn date by opening holes on the roof for air flow.

The site will be secured with minimal activity on Saturday or Sunday. No updates will be issued through the weekend. For more information, check www.sdcountyemergency.com.

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