

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Chief Brian Estes

The County of Nevada Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in recognizing Unit Chief Brian Estes for his 35-year career in fire service. He has been integral in leading some of the most transformational projects, which have left a lasting impact in numerous communities.

Unit Chief Brian Estes began his career as a Firefighter I in southeast San Diego County. The fast-paced environment fueled his enthusiasm for the fire service. In 1995, he seized an opportunity to join a CAL FIRE helicopter crew in Tuolumne County. In 1998, Brian was promoted to Fire Apparatus Engineer and assigned to the Amador El Dorado Unit.

When he joined Incident Command Team 10 as a Type I Operations Section Chief, he contributed to over 30 deployments during some of California's most challenging emergencies. In 2013, Brian was selected as one of six Type I Incident Commanders, leading Incident Management Team 6 and commanding 14 Type I incidents across California for the next five years.

Chief Estes continued to advance, serving as Assistant Chief of Operations, overseeing a Fire Crew Camp, Deputy Chief of Operations, and ultimately Unit Chief for the Nevada Yuba Placer Unit and Fire Chief of the Placer County Fire Department. His leadership facilitated resource deployment across three counties from fire stations, air attack bases, and initial attack helicopters.

Chief Estes' impact extended beyond California. In 2023, he deployed to Maui, Hawaii, to assist the Hawaiian government with mitigation, governance, and incident management following the devastating Lahaina wildland-urban interface fire. Later that year, he traveled to Germany, building partnerships with fire services in over 10 cities and speaking at a major Western European fire symposium on emerging wildland-urban interface fire challenges.

Chief Brian Estes' 35-year career reflects an unwavering dedication to CAL FIRE, and the communities he served. His legacy of leadership, innovation, and mentorship will inspire the next generation of firefighters. Therefore, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in celebrating Chief Brian Estes' 35 years of service.

Heidi Hall, Chair

Robb Tucker, District II

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