



## County disaster ordinance update

We've been working diligently the last several months with County Counsel and the Executive Office to update the existing County Ordinance 533.5.

This local ordinance is the governing document of the emergency management structure for the County, it also ensures the continuity of government during significant incidents. Continuity of government is achieved when the programs directly related to the County of Riverside's constitutional, democratic form of government survive following a catastrophic incident.

Some of the key changes I've been working on for Ordinance 533.5, include elevating the Disaster Council to a policy level membership. This also sets the Operational Area Planning Committee as the technical advisory group to the Disaster Council.

In addition, we've recently reinvigorated the Inter-Department Emergency Management Committee (IDEMC) among county departments and agencies.

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## EMD pulls down Coachella Valley Workplace Wellness Award

Is your desk secured and ergonomically correct? Do you report trip and fall hazards when you see them, or even better, fix them yourself?

Time for a break? Get outside and join one of our many walking groups.

EMD's safe and healthy culture led to special recognition from Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC). EMD is the proud winner of the Coachella Valley Workplace Wellness Award in the Safety and Environment category.

"We were very thankful to receive this award on behalf of EMD, which recognized our success in workplace wellness," said EMD Health Education Assistant II Carol Gonzalez.

EMD places a high value on motivating safe and healthy behavior among personnel. Between Gonzalez and Safety Officer Martin Baxter, EMD is kept up to speed on the latest health competitions and safety training information. Gonzalez loves to chat about optimal nutrition and Baxter plays a mean game of air hockey.

"Winning the award motivates me to live up to the spirit of the award and further improve our programs this year," said Baxter.

Organizations were selected based on exemplary work to protect and

promote employee health and wellness in the Coachella Valley. According to HARC, winners of the Workplace Wellness Awards represent some of the best places to work in the region. We couldn't agree more. ■



Carol Gonzalez (left) shows off the Desert Sun newspaper ad naming EMD as the Workplace Wellness Award winner. Martin Baxter [safely] balances the award on Carol's head.

BRUCE, CONTINUED FROM  
PG. 1

The IDEMC was formed in 2014 aimed at achieving the goals and objectives born from the former Emergency Management Task-force.

Moving forward, IDEMC will focus on plan development and implementation, including the Emergency Operations Plan, Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan, and county department COOP Annexes. In addition, employee mobilization and employee training are also key areas of focus at the IDEMC. The collaborative work of the IDEMC will be aligned to support these efforts, EMD's Strategic Plan and our department work plan.

Thanks to the work of the strategic planning team, led by Brian MacGavin, EMD's first 2018-2021 Strategic Plan is complete. You can read it online at [www.RivCoEMD.org](http://www.RivCoEMD.org), under the About Us section. ■

Regards,

*Bruce*

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Source is produced by EMD personnel. Submit story ideas to [EMDPIO@rivco.org](mailto:EMDPIO@rivco.org).

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## EMD adds four new team members to the roster

Spring was in the air. Flowers were blooming and four new personnel sprouted in the EMD family.

In REMSA, Lizette Cisneros is the division's newest Office Assistant II. Lizette recently moved to Eastvale from Carson and comes to us from RUHS - Behavior Health. Lizette adds to the office football rivalries by supporting the Green Bay Packers. She and her husband enjoy travel and delicious food. In a disaster, Lizette will look after her Terrier, Lucas, armed with her flashlight and batteries.

The Preparedness Division added two new members. Jose Garcia is the department's first Emergency Management Educator and comes from Washington D.C. where he was a lieutenant for a university police department. Jose grew up in Southern California before attending Fresno State and working in law enforcement with the Fresno County Sheriff's Department. Jose has a Master's degree in emergency and disaster management from Georgetown University and is fluent in American Sign Language (and occasionally Spanish). In a disaster, Jose

plans to care for his dog, Bosco, while listening to some good tunes. After all, his dog and music are two items he's sure to have ready when the big one hits.

Also new to Preparedness is Melissa Hooper who is the division's new Office Assistant III. Melissa has lived in Riverside for most of her life and has been in the Army for 12 years. Her daughter Isabel will start preschool in the fall, while Melissa transfers to Cal Poly Pomona to continue her education. Melissa enjoys American muscle cars and drag races. She says two of the most important things in her emergency kit are her daughter's favorite book, *Llama Llama, Red Pajama*, and a first aid kit.

Rounding out the list of new additions is Erik Ramirez with the Operations Division. Erik will keep the department's operations well supplied as our new Support Services Technician. Coming from the oil and gas industry, Erik worked on offshore supply boats in the Gulf of Mexico. Married with two boys, Erik says two key elements in his emergency kit are a generator and a supply of medicine. ■



EMD's newest employees (from left): Lizette Cisneros, Melissa Hooper, Jose Garcia and Erik Ramirez pose for a picture between the two Riverwalk Towers.

## World Series champ motivates EMD to set sights high, make plans to get there

Mr. Marlin himself paid EMD a visit in May. Retired Major League Baseball (MLB) player and extreme adventurer, Jeff Conine, took time out of his family visit to Southern California to share his approach to personal motivation and mental resiliency.

Conine is a two time MLB World Series Champ, both with the Miami Marlins. For 25 years, he and his wife Cindy Conine have helped to accommodate families of children receiving treatment at the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood, FL. Together, the Conines run the nonprofit, which has housed many families across the country.

Conine also has close ties to Renee Poselski, EMD's Contracts Analyst. "He's my *little* brother," Poselski clarified. The pair's father was even in the audience for the discussion.

"Seeing the dynamic between Jeff, Renee, and their father was really powerful," said Office Assistant Verena Liles. "It was nice to see the generations coming together and giving back to the community."

Conine addressed how he's achieved

his goals – relentless work ethic and inherently knowing there's always room for improvement. "I look at life like a huge window," said Conine. "I make the most of the opportunities I have."

Some of the opportunities that Conine has taken advantage of include competing in the Ford Ironman Championship in 2008 and the World Marathon Challenge this year. The challenge consisted of seven marathons in seven continents over seven days.

How does a single human being achieve so much success? "Set a goal, have a plan to get there, and don't let anything deter you," said Conine.

Conine further explained that refusing to be deterred allows him to quickly bounce back after obstacles that would defeat many others. When he was training for the Ironman, Conine was hit by a car and broke his shoulder and collarbone. He lost valuable weeks of training, but was able to make up the time missed by increasing the intensity of his training and adjusting his food plan.

Conine also shared his favorite memory from playing in the majors. Late in one of his all-star game appearances, Joe DiMaggio stayed past his scheduled departure time to watch Conine bat. Conine hit a solo home run for the win and was later named Most Valuable Player in the game. DiMaggio kindly signed a commemorative All Star ball for Conine. "To Jeff, Left the ballpark after your thrilling home run in the All Star game. My Best, Joe DiMaggio" 



World Series Champ and extreme adventurer Jeff Conine stands with his sister Renee Poselski of EMD/Business and Finance Division during his visit to EMD.



From left: Michelle Kelly (EMD), Frank Kams (San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department), Jennifer Smith (EMD), Tamica Fouts-Rachal (CA State Council on Developmental Disabilities), Dennis Day (EMD) and Mark Bassett (EMD) receive Autism Hero Awards at the Autism Society's Hero Walk on April 22.


## Autism Heroes

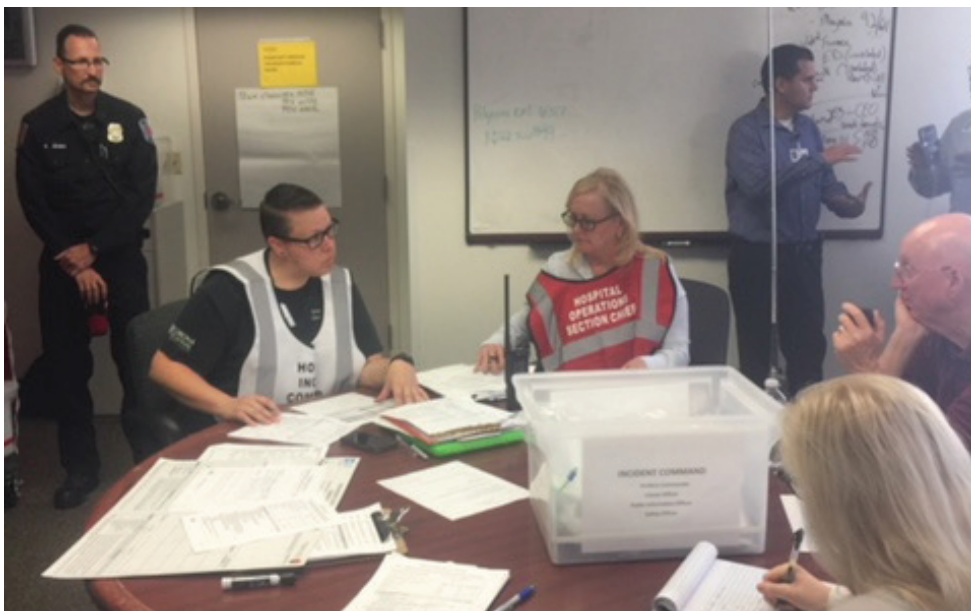
Team EMD partnered with the Autism Society's Hero Walk on April 22 to facilitate the Inland Empire's largest-ever, disaster preparedness expo specifically for the autism community.

More than 2,000 attendees listened as emergency management professionals spoke about lifesaving disaster preparedness tips for disabilities, access and functional needs (DAFN) community members. One hundred families also received hands-on fire extinguisher training throughout the day.

During the event, EMD team members Jennifer Smith and Dennis Day were recognized as Autism Heroes for their leadership in the areas of disaster and emergency preparedness for the DAFN community.

"It was an honor to be recognized by such an important organization," said Smith, who develops plans and collaborates with the DAFN community. The event resulted in renewed dialogue between emergency management, first responders and agencies serving the DAFN community throughout the Inland Empire.

"It's so rewarding to teach the whole community how simple, yet critical steps could save their life in a disaster," said Day. 



Players in the Corona Regional Medical Center exercise address how they will move 20 percent of their patients within 90 minutes.

## Gone in 90 minutes

Corona Regional Medical Center, with assistance from EMD, conducted a Coalition Surge Test (CST) to evaluate the hospital's ability to accept a large number of patients. Within 90 minutes, the hospital identified the beds it could make available, match patients to those beds, and identified transportation resources appropriate for each patient. This resulted in evacuating 20 percent of their total patients.

The CST is designed to assist health care coalitions identify gaps in surge planning through a no-notice exercise. The exercise's foundation comes from a real-world health care system disaster challenge—the evacuation of a healthcare facility.

EMD monitored the evacuation portion of the drill. Although, no patients were physically evacuated from the facility, hospital staff completed all physical paper work needed for patient evacuation, including calling local hospitals to survey bed availability and ambulance companies to assist with the transfer of patients.

Nursing units contacted patient family members explaining the drill and asked, "If this were a real event, could you pick up your family member?"

At the end of the 90 minute surge exercise, Corona Regional evacuated well above the 20% target mark and successfully evacuated 67% of their patient census. Corona Regional Medical Center partnered with the City of Corona police and fire departments, Mission Ambulance, American Medical Response, Cavalry Ambulance, Corona Health Care Center, Inland Valley and Temecula Valley Medical Center.

Other facilities playing in the exercise included Hemet Valley Medical Center, University of California Irvine Medical Center, Palm Terrace Corona, Vista Cove Corona and Kindred of Ontario.

The Corona Regional Emergency Department, as well as all other hospital services, continued normal operations throughout the exercise. Corona Regional Medical Center is a 238-bed community hospital network consisting of a 160-bed acute care hospital and a 78-bed rehabilitation campus. ■

## Healthy motivations

### July 28 is World Hepatitis Day

Viral Hepatitis is one of the biggest global health threats of our time and causes 1.34 million deaths every year. Astonishingly, 300 million people living with viral hepatitis are unaware they have the disease. A cure for hepatitis C, as well as treatment and vaccine for hepatitis B exists. Get checked today.

### August is National Breast Feeding Month

Breast milk contains everything the baby needs for their first six months of life. Colostrum, which is expressed the first few days after the baby is born, is often referred to as "liquid gold," because it is loaded with antibodies that helps babies fight off viruses and bacteria. It also helps develop the newborn's immature digestive tract.

The act of breastfeeding promotes bonding between mom and baby. Breastfeeding also burns up to 500 calories a day.

### September is National Preparedness Month

Your neighbor may have to rely on you during an emergency. Will you be ready? Do you have enough water and food stored to last your family for three to seven days? Knowing how to shut off utilities like gas, water and electricity is key after a disaster. Preparing the family for an emergency is as simple as a conversation over dinner. Teach your kids how to turn off the utilities too.

- Build a kit
- Make a plan
- Sign up for Alert RivCo

Get started at [www.rivcoready.org](http://www.rivcoready.org) ■



# By the numbers

- **10** people on average die EACH DAY from unintentional drowning.
- The **5th** leading cause of unintentional injury and death in the U.S. is drowning.
- **3,536** unintentional drownings occur each year in the U.S. for non-boating related incidents.
- **50** percent of drowning victims treated in emergency departments require hospitalization or medical transfer for additional care. Compare this with only **6 percent** for all unintentional injuries.
- **1 in 5** who die from drowning are children aged **0 - 14** years.
- **7** children have died from drowning in Riverside County between January and July of this year.

\*Statistics from 2005-2014 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data and REMSA. Visit [www.capriverside.org](http://www.capriverside.org) to find out more about low cost swim lessons. ■



Teach children to swim at an early age.

# REMSA hits the streets for EMS Week

Paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMT) and mobile intensive care nurses (MICN) often see community members when they are at their worst. The sick, the injured, the odd, emergent cases.

Medics, EMTs and MICNs provide critical pre-hospital care to safely transport thousands of Riverside County residents and visitors each month.

Every year, EMD/REMSA says thank you to our county’s 3,400 licensed paramedics, EMTs and MICNs as part of National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week by providing care packages to field staff, dispatchers and support personnel. This year, REMSA visited every permitted ambulance provider and five basic life support companies during EMS Week.

“I went on a morning ride-along with Riverside County Fire Department during EMS Week,” said Reyshawn Bobo, Administrative Services Assistant with EMD/Preparedness. “The opportunity gave me the chance to see firsthand the people in the community our medics and EMTs help every day. It also allowed me to gain an appreciation for

the type of situations they encounter.”

The Riverside County EMS system is the fourth busiest in California in terms of call volume, which is expected to grow within the next two years and become the third busiest. Visit [www.REMSA.us](http://www.REMSA.us) for more information on REMSA’s credentialing program. ■



From left: Dan Bates (REMSA), Steve Jensen (Preparedness), Josh Parsons (AMR) and David Olquin (AMR) celebrate EMS week with a barbecue at AMR’s headquarters in Perris.

# CPR Week call for action, learn to save lives

When the heart stops beating, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a life saving measure that can double or triple the chance of survival. CPR is such a vital tool, that there is a whole week dedicated to CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) awareness.

CPR week was June 1-7. This year, the American Heart Association debuted a new campaign highlighting the importance of bystanders taking action and being willing to perform CPR during a cardiac arrest emergency.

“The importance of learning and performing CPR cannot be stressed enough,” said REMSA EMS Specialist Ralph Serrano, who has been a long-

time advocate for CPR awareness. Serrano provided the following tips:

- Scene safety – Always make sure you are safe before helping anyone.
- Always call for help – Make sure you or someone else calls 911 for help.
- Get the AED – Grab an automated external defibrillator, if available.
- Push hard and fast – compress the victim’s chest hard and fast, aiming for the center of the chest.

In addition to these helpful tips, Serrano urges EMD staff to take advantage of the CPR training that is held quarterly by American Medical Response (AMR). ■

## EMD celebrates Administrative Professionals Day

Administrative Staff in the Emergency Management Department (EMD) were honored during an April 25 stand up meeting in the conference room. The recognition was in observance of Administrative Professionals Day, which highlights the importance of Administrative staff to the organization.

During the meeting, administrative staff were presented with decorated candy jars. These tokens of appreciation were put together by Nadine Hays of the Business and Finance Division, with the cost of supplies being shared by managers and supervisors.

"It's always fun to create things for people who are always giving of themselves," said Hays. "It warms my heart to see the joy on their faces!"

Hays wasn't alone in her excitement. Dana Lagunas of Preparedness said the gift was very creative and the presentation was an unexpected surprise.

"I felt appreciated," said Lagunas. "It was like there was a spotlight on us and that made it feel special."

Deputy Director Victoria Jauregui Burns led the meeting and handed the gifts out to each recipient. In addition to the candy jars, a continental breakfast was served for all to enjoy.

"It was our way of saying thank you for all the great work and support for EMD," said Jauregui Burns. 📌



Dana Lagunas (left) receives a gift from Victoria Jauregui Burns for her hard work all year long.

## EMD nurses talk inspiration for nursing

National Nurses Week was May 6 – 12. The annual recognition spotlights EMD's nurses for the profound impact they have on our department. In their own words, EMD's nurses share how nursing impacts them.

- I went into nursing because I liked caring for people; it always made me feel like I made a change in someone's life. My role in EMD brings nursing into an entire system approach for specialty and trauma care throughout Riverside County. - Shanna Kissel, Assistant Nurse Manager
- I love the people and the human

touch. Nursing takes all the soul and spirit combined to reach the people who need it. My role of bringing nursing into emergency management connects patient care to regional resources. - K.C., Registered Nurse III

- I got into nursing, because my mom said I could go anywhere and that appealed to my wanderlust, plus it appealed to my enjoyment of the biosciences. Gravitating to EMD made a very smooth and logical transition, because I routinely interface with EMS crews receiving patients. - Karen Petrilla, Emergency Medical Services Specialist

- The professional code of ethics for nursing speaks most to me about my drive for the profession. Nursing holds that health is a universal human right. I feel fortunate to do what I do every day with my nursing skills in EMD. - Scott Moffatt, Emergency Medical Services Specialist 📌



EMD nurses pose outside of the Riverwalk garden. From left: Karen Petrilla, Karen Craven (K.C.) and Shanna Kissel. Not pictured: Scott Moffatt.

## Who wore it better? You pick.



Everything is just peachy! From left: Renee Poselski, Martin Baxter and Bertha Vaca.



Safety first! Orange you glad Martin is as concerned with our well-being as this safety cone? 📌

## Victoria ready to soak up the sun in retirement

Victoria Jauregui Burns, Emergency Management Department (EMD) Deputy Director, is retiring. Burns has been with the department for three years and has been a leader and mentor to staff.

Before coming to EMD, Burns was newly retired from the Department of Public Health, where she served as a Program Chief to the HIV/AIDS branch. In total, Burns has worked with Riverside County for 33 years.

"It's exciting to be part of a department that is the first of its kind," said Burns. "I'm going to miss everyone."

Burns explained that she really enjoyed her time at EMD, especially watching everyone join together and adjust to a new dynamic - becoming one team, instead of three.

Although there are projects that she'd like to stay and see through, Burns said she is looking forward to spending more time with family and engaging in more creative pastimes. She also mentioned that she plans to take full advan-



Victoria Jauregui Burns (bottom center) receives a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors (top row) for her 33 years of service to Riverside County. RUHS Director Kim Saruwatari (bottom left) and EMD Director Bruce Barton (bottom right) stand beside her.

tage of senior citizen discounts at movie matinees.

Burns wasn't alone in her feelings of separation. EMD Secretary Annette Reese said that Victoria's absence would be felt.

"I'm going to miss her and I wish her happy and wonder-

ful things in her retirement," said Reese.

Burns said EMD staff won't have to miss her too much, as they are welcome to reach out her anytime they want. She's just a phone call away.

Congratulations and best wishes! 📌

## Praise given to EMD volunteer cadre and standout stars

They give tirelessly of their time. They don't wait until disaster lands on their doorstep. They are busy now.

Annually, they spend hundreds of hours providing training and advocating for better plans and equipment. Meet EMD's volunteer squad – each an expert in their own right and willing to be of service to Riverside County.

"Volunteers make us better," said Jennifer Smith, Volunteer Program Coordinator. "From amateur radio operators to nurses, they profoundly enhance our ability to respond and recover from emergencies and disasters."

On April 30, EMD gave much-deserved praise to members of Disaster Corps, during the first-ever volunteer recognition brunch.

"All of the volunteers were so apprecia-

tive," said EMD Preparedness Manager Ramon Leon. "Some have volunteered for more than 20 years and this was their official recognition ceremony."

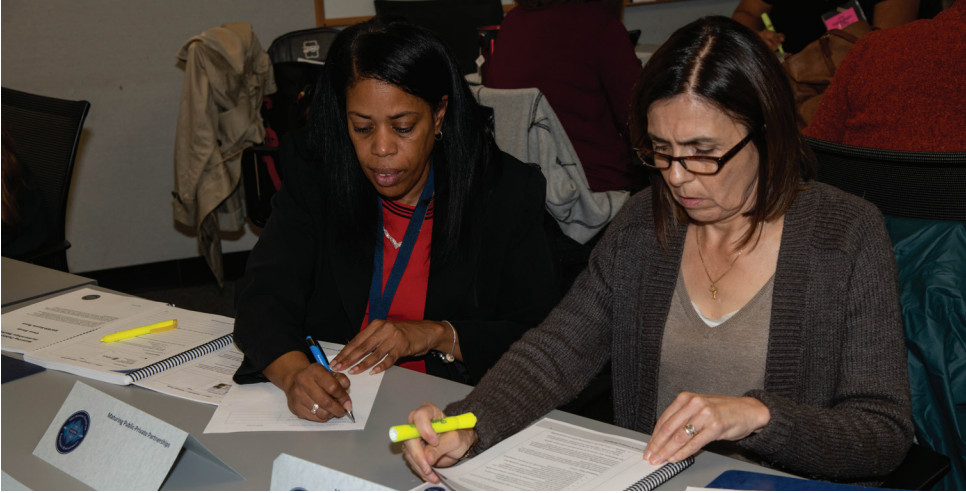
Acclaim was given to the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) group, designated as the Volunteer Organization of the Year. RACES volunteers Maureen Hiemstra and Harold Witten accepted the award on behalf of the group. Standout RACES star Mark Utley also received the 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Volunteer Hero Award. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteer Sparrow Greene received the Community Service Award for being a champion in both training and recruiting members.

"Our volunteers are dedicated to the cause," said Dana Lagunas, Volunteer Programs Administrative Services Assistant. "They have big smiles and even bigger hearts." 📌



Jennifer Smith (left) and Dana Lagunas (right) present the 11th Hour Volunteer Hero Award to Mark Utley (center) of RACES.

## Private sector partnerships key to response plans



Angie Johnson (left) of EMD/Operations Division, and Sonia Brown (right) from the California Office of Emergency Services perform an activity during the public-private partnership training.

Reality check: the government can't help everyone in need after a disaster. Unfortunately, some think the government can (or should) provide everything needed following a catastrophic event. In emergency management, we know this expectation can never be met.

Helping the community during a large-scale event requires significant assistance from any number of organizations. When it comes to response and recovery, public-private partnerships are key components to a comprehensive plan.

Public-private partnerships highlight the fact that the government can't do it all

on their own. Assistance from nonprofits, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and businesses is essential to reach everyone in need. This is why EMD brought a highly anticipated training course to town for emergency managers and private sector agencies.

After launching the Business Emergency Operations Center, EMD's Angie Johnson established relationships with the businesses and organizations that will have the ability to provide resources to residents following a mass consequence event.

"Bringing this FEMA workshop to our county was a great way for us to educate some of our potential partners and for everyone to network," said EMD Operations Manager Mark Bassett.

The workshop covered two days and the attendees represented a wide range of interests from the nonprofit and education sectors to local, state and federal government. Attendees at the training were guided through real world scenarios. The diverse audience made for productive discussions. ■

## Handle Microsoft Excel like a pro

### Keep Column or Row Headings Visible

When a worksheet becomes wider or longer than a screen view, you can't see the column or row headings as you scroll. You might need these headings to enter data - you need **Freeze Panes**.

**Freeze Panes** is found under the **View** ribbon, in the **Window** grouping. There are three options:

- **Freeze Top Row:** Keep the top row visible while you scroll down
- **Freeze First Column:** Keep the first column visible while you scroll across
- **Freeze Panes:** Keep both rows and columns visible as you scroll. First click below the needed row and one column to the right. (See illustration)

	A	B	C
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

### Hide columns

Select the column/row to hide. Right-click from the mouse on the selected column or row and select **Hide** from the menu.

B	C	F	G

**Example:** Columns D and E are missing, the column separator becomes thicker. To bring the hidden column or rows back into view, select the column

before and after the hidden column, or C and F above. Right click and select **Unhide**.

**Note:** Find the **Hide/Unhide** feature on the **Home** ribbon, under the **Cell** grouping. The **Format** drop-down menu also has a **Visibility Hide/Unhide, Rows, Columns and Sheets**.

### Give your Worksheet a Name

An Excel Workbook can contain several Worksheets, which are numbered by default, Sheet 1, Sheet 2, and so on.

You can easily give your worksheets a name that is more appropriate - and honorable - by right-clicking the Sheet # tab located directly above the **Status** bar, select **Rename** from the menu. The name appears highlighted. Type a new name, then press **Enter**. ■



## Service Awards

Service awards are for total service to the County of Riverside. Anniversaries below are for May 2018 – July 2018. Thank you for your dedication to public service. These anniversaries represent 117 years of service to the County of Riverside. Let's give it up!

Henry Olson – 1 year

Ralph Serrano – 1 year

Jennifer Dominguez – 2 years

Joe Barron – 3 years

Donna Mayer – 3 years

Alecia Wagner – 3 years

Misty Heyden – 4 years

Stacie Kelly – 4 years

Misty Plumley – 4 years

Mark Bassett – 7 years

Jose Torres – 11 years

Kim Dana – 12 years

Laronte Groom – 18 years

Brian Mac Gavin – 20 years

Karen Petrilla – 24 years

## Moving on up!

We've had three recent promotions in EMD/Operations!

Verna Liles was promoted to Office Assistant III. She supports the Operations Division with scheduling, ordering supplies and other important administrative tasks. She's often found juggling paperwork, phone calls and answering questions from across the room – all at the exactly the same time.

Jose Torres was promoted to Support Services Supervisor. Jose is always willing to help. While he primarily works out of the warehouse taking inventory and locating in demand supplies, he's no stranger to the Riverwalk location. You can always find Jose lending a hand to anyone in need.

Michelle Kelly was also recently promoted to Emergency Management Supervisor. Michelle most recently served as the Emergency Services Coordinator Lead for the last seven months. She is often seen supporting the jurisdictions within Riverside County, including the City of Indio, along with all of District 2.

Remember to congratulate Verna, Jose and Michelle on their well-deserved promotions next time you see them around the office.

Congratulations, ladies and gentleman! We're proud of you!

## Parting shot



CALFIRE's helicopter drops water on a fire in the river bottom of Riverside last summer. Community members are reminded to stay vigilant of fire activity, or anything that could spark a fire, throughout the summer and fall months.