

Pasadena Fire Department



Annual Report 2008



Mission & Values Statements

The mission of the Pasadena Fire Department is to provide protection of life, property, and the environment from the effects of fires, medical emergencies, and hazards; we engage the community in our mission through progressive community outreach.

As members of the Pasadena Fire Department we take pride in our commitment to professional service by maintaining our skills, knowledge and abilities. All members of the Department are committed to conducting ourselves in an ethical manner, conforming to a moral standard of right versus wrong by treating each other and the people we serve humanely, professionally, and honestly. We ascribe to the following Values:

ACCOUNTABILITY Members of the Pasadena Fire Department are accountable to each other and the community we serve. We accept responsibility for our decisions and actions.

INTEGRITY Members of the Pasadena Fire Department are honest and fair in our dealings with our customers and each other. We are honorable to our profession and we inspire each other to maintain trustworthiness, openness, and sincerity.

FLEXIBILITY Members of the Pasadena Fire Department adapt to the ever-changing needs of our community, the organization, and the environment.

Message From The Fire Chief



Let me begin by thanking the men and women of the Pasadena Fire Department for their dedication and professionalism throughout 2008. Fire Department members were not only called to action locally, but also served communities across California during what proved to be very challenging times, combating wildfires that burned throughout our region. Department members were deployed from Mariposa County to Orange County for several weeks assisting other agencies, yet never lost sight of our responsibility of protecting Pasadena's own foothills and neighboring jurisdictions.

A heightened awareness of the need for being prepared was brought about by the "Great Southern California ShakeOut", which is credited for creating a significant demand for disaster preparedness presentations. On November 13, 2008, more than 2,000 City employees participated in the statewide "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drill, the statewide earthquake emergency operations exercise, and also tested internal department response plans. Through our partnership with the United States Geological Survey, Fire Department staff were able to educate hundreds of local businesses, community groups, schools and employees on how to build disaster plans and emergency kits.

In 2008, the Fire Department graduated eight Firefighters from the Verdugo Fire Recruit Academy. The Department continues to see employee turnover due to retirements; nearly one-third of all sworn members (58% in the rank of Firefighter) have less than five years on the Department.

Thanks to a generous grant from Sullivan Curtis Monroe Insurance Services LLC and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, the Fire Department purchased a new roof ventilation training unit that will enhance firefighter skill levels. The Fireman's Fund Heritage program has also been instrumental in distributing grant funding through their partners that assists the Department with Pasadena Emergency Response Team (PERT) backpacks and supplies, which are given to graduates of the 12-hour program.

As we look toward 2009, we find that Pasadena is faced with a very difficult budget situation. As members of the Pasadena Fire Department, we are charged with adapting to ever changing times and uncertainties. Our ultimate goal during these tumultuous times is to continue serving our community in the excellent manner that they have become accustomed to, without adversely affecting our service delivery. Fire Department personnel are committed to continue to work cohesively as we develop strategies to work efficiently and effectively in implementing the policies of Pasadena's City Council.

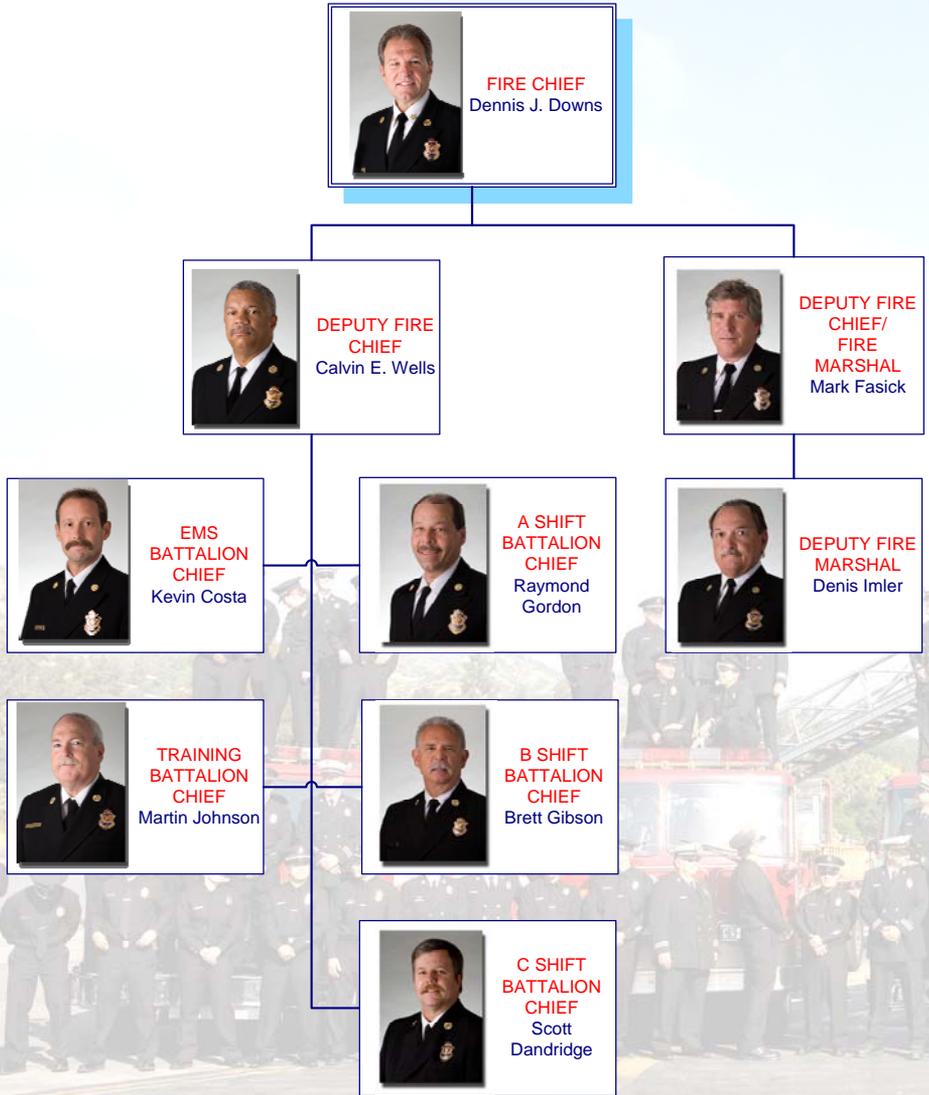
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis J. Downs". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

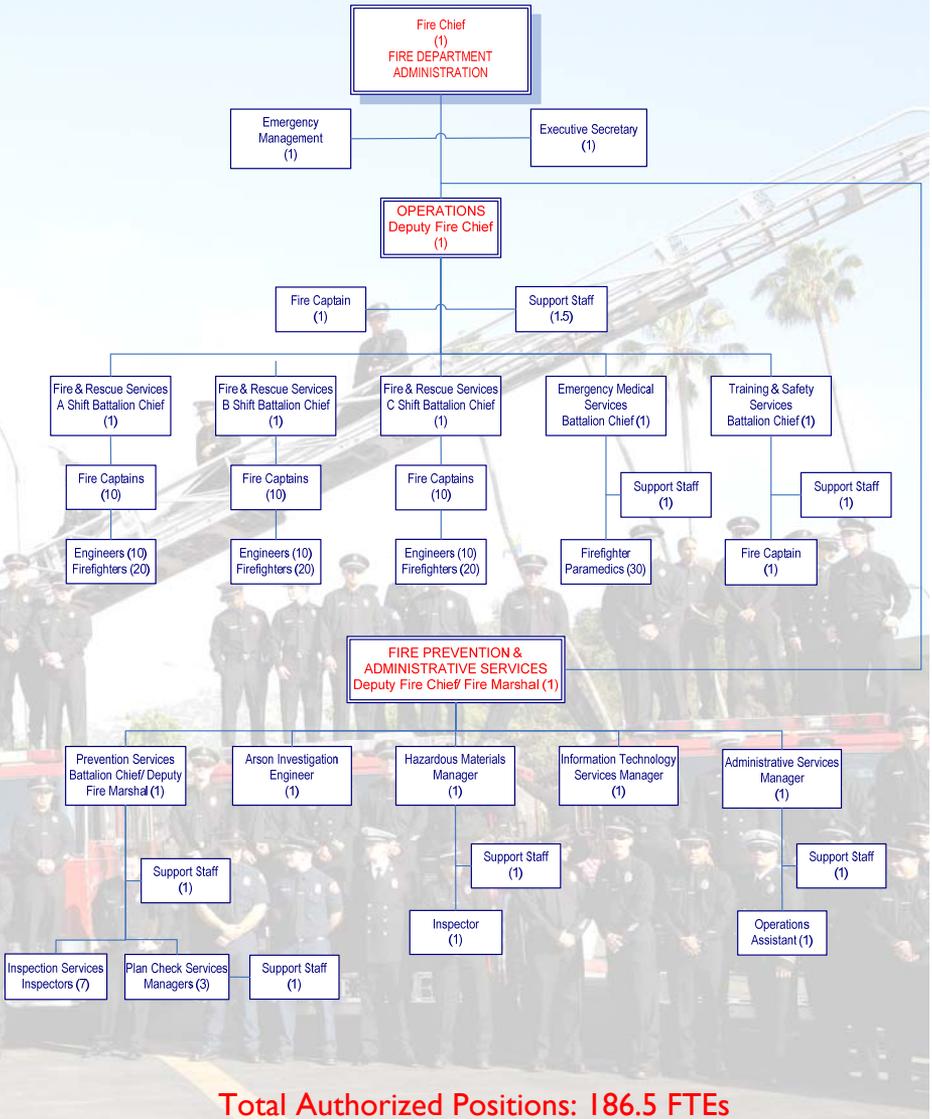
Dennis J. Downs,

Fire Chief

Chief Officers - During 2008



Fire Department Organization Chart



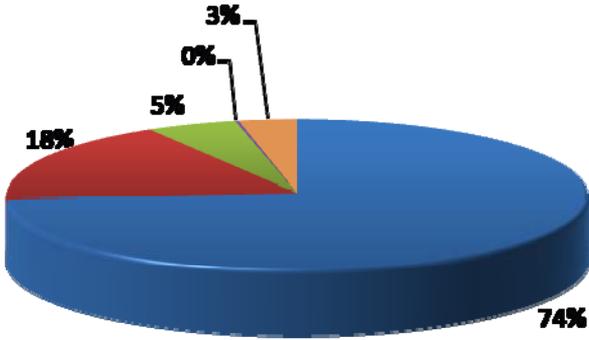
Responses By Unit



Unit ID	2008 Responses	2007 Responses	2006 Responses
Engine 31	3,731	3,619	3,534
Engine 32	1,956	1,879	1,883
Engine 33	3,307	3,268	3,304
Engine 34	2,171	2,216	2,266
Engine 36	3,220	3,109	2,999
Engine 37	1,488	1,492	1,558
Engine 38	728	702	713
Engine 39	682	703	642
Rescue Ambulance 31	2,880	2,923	3,122
Rescue Ambulance 32	2,295	2,395	2,712
Rescue Ambulance 33	3,121	3,248	3,586
Rescue Ambulance 34	2,149	1,501	N/A
Rescue Ambulance 36	2,926	2,981	3,155
Truck 31	1,500	1,306	1,264
Truck 32	845	826	924
US&R32	18	28	33
Total Responses	33,017	32,196	31,695
	1.02% Annual Increase	1.6% Annual Increase	3% Annual Increase

2008 Call Summary

■ Medical
 ■ Fires
 ■ Service Calls
 ■ Other
 ■ Outside



Category	2008 Total Incidents	2007 Total Incidents	2006 Total Incidents
Medical	12,141	11,809	11,612
Fires	2,870	2,837	3,056
Service Calls	840	830	787
Other	33	38	189*
Outside	537	569	513*
Total Calls	16,421	16,083	16,157*

* Revised



2008 Incidents By Month & Category

Category	Fire	Medical	Service	Other
Jan	278	1132	76	3
Feb	224	1069	45	3
Mar	211	1076	65	0
Apr	238	968	58	3
May	208	961	53	0
Jun	232	948	57	2
Jul	200	986	120	2
Aug	220	1003	57	3
Sep	253	1026	74	4
Oct	246	970	80	3
Nov	268	952	69	7
Dec	292	1050	66	3
Total	2870	12141	820	33

Outside Jurisdiction Responses 537

Other Agencies Responses into Pasadena 539



Property Saved Versus at Risk

Year	At Risk	Saved	Loss
2008	1,083,251,931 (100%)	1,078,788,225 (99.6%)	4,463,706 (0.4%)

Emergency Management Training



Emergency preparedness is a priority for the City of Pasadena. Known for hosting world class events and the renowned Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game, complacency in planning and preparedness efforts is not an option. Just as we train our internal departments, educating our community is of utmost importance. The Pasadena Emergency Response Team (PERT) trainings have been ongoing with the concept of PERT boot camps implemented first by Councilmember Jacque Robinson with over 110 attendees. Councilmembers Margaret McAustin and Steve Madison followed with over 200 participants collectively. These six hour courses give attendees an overview of the program and several have followed up with the full 12-hour course. Through a generous donation from Fireman's Fund Heritage Grant Program, PERT backpacks with disaster supplies were distributed to 250 PERT graduates who completed the full course.

The November ShakeOut statewide earthquake scenario brought heightened awareness to disaster preparedness with the highest requests for presentations since the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. For the first time

in Pasadena's history, Chief Downs and Dr. Kate Hutton (United States Geological Survey) met with over 40 private school representatives to highlight the importance of participation in the "Great ShakeOut" drill and the need for disaster plans. Also covered were the importance of maintaining a cache of supplies and the need for ongoing drills for students and staff. The Fire Department continues to be actively involved with emergency preparedness efforts at the Pasadena Unified School District and participates in their monthly safety meetings. The Police Department Community Services Division has teamed up with the Fire Department to teach the correlation between neighborhood watch and disaster preparedness, instilling the "neighbor helping neighbor" philosophy. In years past these have been a separate focus, and the collaborative effort is proving to be much more efficient for both departments and the public. Citywide emergency management training and exercises continued to be a major focus. Two simulated disaster exercises were completed, along with a myriad of training sessions to prepare City responders for the eventuality of a disaster.

2008 Fire Prevention Inspections

Inspection Type	2008 Actual	2007 Actual
High Rise Structures	50	50
Institutional, Educational and Residential Care Facilities	84	90
Merchant and Business	238	379
Public Assembly Occupancies	141	175
Hazardous Materials Occupancies	459	357
New Construction	549	516
Hazardous Vegetation	3030	2189
Total Inspections	4,551	3,756

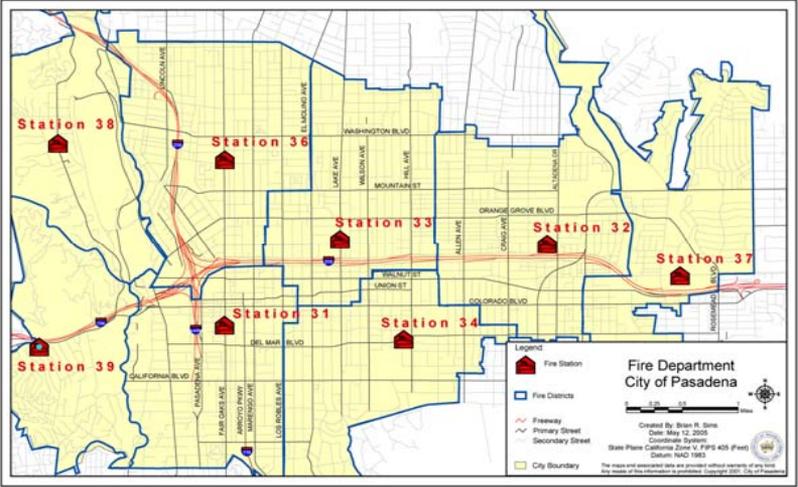
Inspection Staff



2008 Fire Plan Check Activity

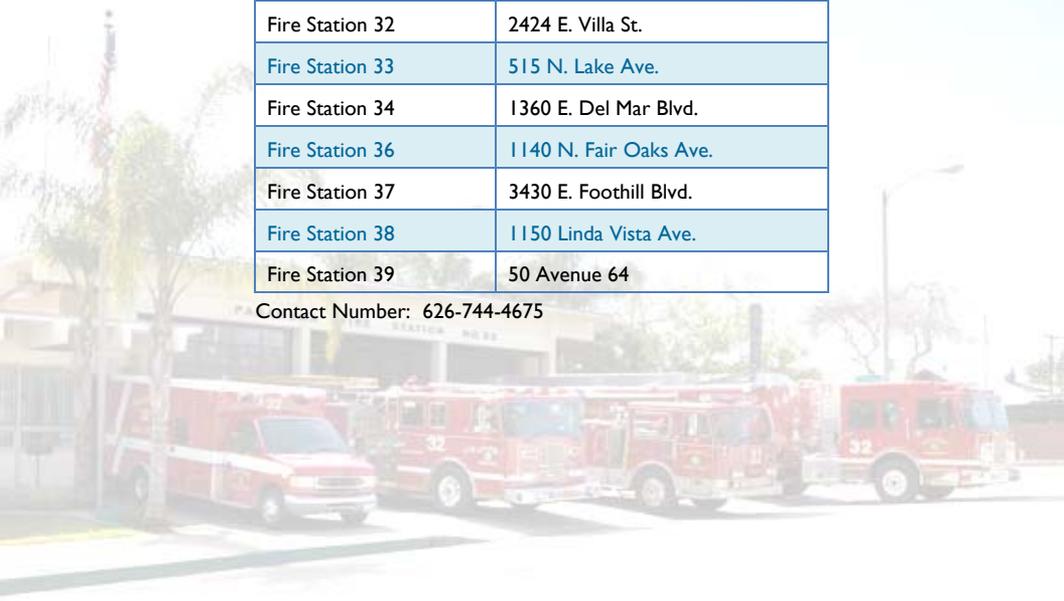
Plan Check	2008 Actual	2007 Actual
Fire Plans	1,570	1,671
Fire Plan Recheck	77	262
Fire over the Counter	1,005	256
Building	289	1,085
Total	2,941	3,274

Fire Station Locations



Station	Locations
Fire Station 31	135 S. Fair Oaks Ave.
Fire Station 32	2424 E. Villa St.
Fire Station 33	515 N. Lake Ave.
Fire Station 34	1360 E. Del Mar Blvd.
Fire Station 36	1140 N. Fair Oaks Ave.
Fire Station 37	3430 E. Foothill Blvd.
Fire Station 38	1150 Linda Vista Ave.
Fire Station 39	50 Avenue 64

Contact Number: 626-744-4675



Department Programs



Burn Quest

"Firefighters Quest for Burn Survivors" is a non-profit organization managed by firefighters and civilians who volunteer their services and are dedicated to assisting those that have been affected by burn injuries. The organization hosted several fund raisers throughout the year in which donations were received and distributed on behalf of each donor to local burn centers, foundations, and burn survivors and their families.

As in the past, this year the Pasadena Firefighters' Association, Local 809 donated money to the "Firefighters Quest for Burn Survivors" through various fund raising events. The Pasadena Fire Department participated in the "Quest Rally", providing a support vehicle that transported burn survivors from city to city, collecting donations from fire departments and corporations.

Community Outreach/ Public Education

Consistent with our Department's strategic plan, we continually train and update our firefighters on how to publicly educate our community. Each year we reach out to approx. 20,000 citizens. We provide Extinguisher Training, Fire Station Tours, and Apparatus Demonstrations; attend Health Fairs and Neighborhood Block Parties. Our "Fire Safety Program" educates elementary school children in the Pasadena Public School District. We conduct Career Day presentations at the Jr. High and High Schools. Feedback is requested from the community on a continual basis so we can assure quality control and evaluation of the presentations to best benefit our citizens.



EMSR



The EMS Reserve is a unique volunteer unit of the Pasadena Fire Department, founded to provide emergency medical services to the citizens and visitors of Pasadena, and to provide an opportunity for EMTs to gain important experience within one of Los Angeles County's premiere EMS providers. Founded in 1981, this 28 year old organization operates as a self-governed volunteer unit within the Pasadena Fire Department, which is itself a non-volunteer department. The EMS Reserve exists to augment emergency medical and disaster services provided by the Pasadena Fire Department's paid staff with EMT-I certified volunteers. In 2008, the 24 members contributed 2,493 hours to the City, for a total of 84,207 since the Reserve's inception.



Explorer Program

Continues to thrive as a valuable learning program for young adults interested in the Fire Service. This past year, the Explorer Post program sponsored five explorers to attend the US Forest Service Wildland Academy, using their own funds that they raised through work at UCLA games and other Rose Bowl functions. This program is sponsored and administered by the Pasadena Fire Department and has been in operation for over 25 years. The Explorer



Program is an extension of the "Learning for Life" career education program with a special emphasis on fire service.



Department Programs

Fire Service Day

Each year, the Pasadena Fire Department and other local agencies recognize Fire Service Day as a day of fun-filled activities that highlight fire safety and showcase the duties and responsibilities of firefighters. Fire Service Day occurs on the second Saturday of May; it is a day that the community of all ages can visit and tour each fire station. The Pasadena Fire Department performs special demonstrations and provides the community with displays of fire apparatus and fire safety information.



Kids Safety Academy

The Kids Safety Academy is a program geared to educate children (ages 6-11) and their parents about safety and awareness in their community. Since the program is intended to educate families, parent attendance and participation is required. The “academy cadets” arrive at the fire station and are able to meet firefighters, receive a station tour and participate in our Fire Safety Trailer, which allows the family to work together through a “mock emergency”.



PERT

PASADENA EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (PERT) TRAINING is a neighbor helping neighbor program designed to help community members become self-sufficient through planning, preparation and training. PERT was borne out of necessity, knowing that emergency personnel will likely be overwhelmed in a disaster.

PERT encompasses four modules taught by on-duty fire personnel. The full course is approximately 12-hours and the modules include: disaster preparedness, fire suppression, medical intervention techniques and light search and rescue.

A minimum of 15-20 participants are required,



and the Department will calendar the courses that best meet participants' scheduling needs.



Special Events Safety

Each year the City of Pasadena hosts many of the largest events in the country. These include the Tournament of Roses Parade, the Rose Bowl Game, UCLA football, and theatrical events at the newly completed and expanded Pasadena Center. The Fire Department is poised to ensure that our public's safety is paramount. Our past successes could not have occurred without the collaborative planning efforts between all of the City's departments and the added support of our neighboring fire departments that also play an active roll.



Administrative Staff



VARDAN AZIZIAN



PARI BAGAYEE



EDNA BURRELL



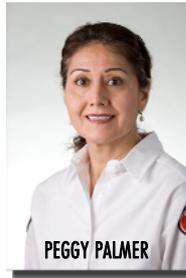
HENRY DELGADO



LISA DERDERIAN



CHRISTINE FERGUSON



PEGGY PALMER



MATIE MACK



PHYLLIS LANSDOWN



STEPHEN LEUNG



DOUGLAS MYERS



KIM NGUYEN



STEPHEN PARRA



SUSAN QUINONES



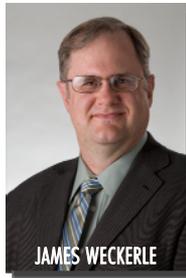
DANNY SERNA



MYLENE TAM



*Fire Department picture day
at the Rose Bowl*



2008 Departmental Highlights



Above: PERT Boot Camp; Top left column: MICN Training; Mario Gomez and Phillip Ward's Engineer promotion; PFD Softball Tournament; Johnie Simpson, Andrew Banks, Garret Madrigal's promotion; Below: Station31 Annual Station Inspection.



Women of PFD

Front row: Laurie Youmans, Kari Jenkins, Nicole Olsen, Jodi Slicker.
Back row: Engineer Christina Terrazas, Jessica Schuman, Danae La Trobe, Gina Thomas, Tricia Rodriguez



5th Annual Report Publication

Special thanks to the following department staff and Volunteer photographers:

Emergency Management Coordinator - [Lisa Derderian](#)

Deputy Fire Chief/ Fire Marshal - [Mark Fasick](#)

Firefighter - [Hrayr Kurdoghlian](#)

Executive Secretary - [Peggy G. Palmer](#)

Firefighter/Fire Inspector - [Christopher Ramstead](#)

Captain - [Danny Serna](#)

Information Technology Analyst II - [Mylene Tam](#)

Firefighter/Fire Inspector - [Gina Thomas](#)

Hazardous Materials Specialist - [James Weckerle](#)

Volunteer Photographers

Ian Adams, Lillie Bayless, Daniel Belis, Henry Delgado, Mike Fera, Renee Lopez, Kenji Luster, Robert Navarro, Jamie Nicholson, Vern Sharp, and Mylene Tam

*“Desire to Serve
Courage to Act”*



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Published by Mylene Tam - May 2009