



# TASC FORCE

TEAM ACTION TO SUPPORT COMMUNITIES

**A** TASC Force – **Flags4Heroes** Event was held this past Memorial Day in Huntington Beach. Each of the 1,559 American flags placed in the sand that day represented a fallen police officer or firefighter from the state of California.

Opening ceremonies featured a combined police and fire department honor guard, flanked by saluting Boy Scouts, marching along the boardwalk. The National Anthem was sung by BJ's team member Alyssa Mazzella and a moment of silence was observed by the hundreds of observers in attendance. Opening remarks were made by police and fire officials as well as the mayor of Huntington Beach.

Following this, flags were placed in the sand by local scout troops, heroes' names were read and a fire bell was rung for each of the 1,559 names. Reading and ringing began at 9 a.m. and by the end of the day, the entire list had been read almost three times by Boy Scout troops, brownie troops, cub scouts, BJ's OC restaurants and home office team members and their families, plus many passersby. Fire engines and firefighters were present all day.

Closing ceremonies were provided by a police honor guard who gave a 21-gun salute, played taps and organized a police helicopter fly-over. An American flag and certificate of thanks were presented to BJ's by the police department.

It was a remarkable first-year event that we plan to continue for years to come. Special thanks to **GMs Sarah Kilborn of HB1 and Kelly Galvin of Belmont** for their support and participation.



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