



NEWS RELEASE

Mountain Vista Fire District

CONTACT: COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER
SHAWN BENJAMIN
520 447-5325
SBENJAMIN@MOUNTAINVISTAFIRE.ORG

MVFD Asking Public to Join in Remembrance during We Remember Night

DATE: MAY 4TH, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One of the hazards of a career in the fire service is the very real risk of mental health issues as a direct result of the occupation. According to statistics collected by the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance (FBHA), over 990 firefighters and EMS personnel have committed suicide since 1880 due to occupational related stressors. In recognition of this loss, the Mountain Vista Fire District will be participating in the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance's 2017 We Remember Night, on May 19, 2017 at 9:00 PM.

We will be placing our apparatus in the driveways to each of our fire stations and turning on the emergency lights for one minute, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness month, and in support of all the families that have suffered a loss due to mental health issues and suicide. We ask you to join us at the above date and time by standing in your driveway and lighting a candle in recognition.



**FIREFIGHTER
BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH
ALLIANCE**

The founder of FBHA, Retired Captain Jeff Dill, is quick to note that this is only the number of job related suicides that have been reported to and validated by his organization. Captain Dill estimates that the actual numbers are much higher. In the last three years alone, an average of 128 individuals have committed suicide in the United States, with an additional 28 to date in 2017.