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## **SAN DIEGO IS SAFER THANKS TO \$65,000 DONATION FOR LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT**

(San Diego, CA – October 8, 2010) – San Diego City firefighters are better equipped to respond to fires and searches thanks to the generous donation from San Diegan Howard Wayne. Today, in front of Fire Station 36 in Wayne’s neighborhood of Clairemont, he announced his donation of \$65,415.56 to the San Diego Fire Rescue Foundation (Foundation), \$55,415.56 of which will be used to purchase six Thermal Imaging Cameras for the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department. The remaining funds will purchase Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for neighborhood schools through San Diego Project Heart Beat.

“The San Diego Fire Rescue Foundation is extremely grateful for this donation from Howard Wayne,” said Philip Forgione, the Foundation’s Board President. “His generosity will help ensure the safety of San Diegans and local firefighters.”

Thermal Imaging Cameras track heat, allowing firefighters to see fires and people needing rescue through walls and dense smoke. Faster searches and more efficient firefighting improve outcomes for victims and firefighters alike. The cameras are seen as key tools in the arsenal of firefighters.

“Thermal Imaging Cameras save lives and reduce property damage,” said San Diego Fire-Rescue Chief Javier Mainar.

Each San Diego City fire engine and fire truck has one Thermal Imaging Camera. The additional six cameras will allow for the older cameras to be properly maintained and repaired as needed, extending the life of the City resources.

The AEDs will also have great impacts on the community.

"This most generous donation, gifted by Mr. Wayne, will be utilized to procure Automated External Defibrillators. The AEDS will be placed at Whitman Elementary, Holmes Elementary, Bay Park Elementary, Carson Elementary and Jones Elementary Schools to help increase our regional survival rates for Sudden Cardiac Arrest by providing the therapy needed to save lives," said Maureen O’Connor of San Diego Project Heart Beat.

Howard Wayne is making this gift from excess funds in his Howard Wayne for State Senate account.

The San Diego Fire Rescue Foundation welcomes public and corporate donations to further strengthen the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department. To learn more or to donate, visit [www.sdfirerescue.org](http://www.sdfirerescue.org).

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Started in 2006, the San Diego Fire Rescue Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity founded by former fire fighters and dedicated community leaders to help provide the unmet equipment and training needs of the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department.