

ORANGE COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE # 016

Date: 9/17/24

Time: 15:00 hours

**Airport Fire Evacuation and Road Closure Updates for
Orange County**

The Orange County Sheriff's Department is announcing additional downgrades to evacuation orders and additional information regarding a limited re-opening of the Ortega Highway from Orange County all the way through to Riverside County effective **Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 3 p.m.**

Hard Road Closure:

- Hot Springs Canyon Road North of Ortega Highway

Hard Road Closure being released:

- Ortega Hwy at US Forest Service Station #25

A Mandatory Evacuation Orders remains in place for the following area:

Ortega Highway

- ELCO1 - which includes Blue Jay Campground

Evacuation Warning being released:

Ortega Highway

- ORT01B - which includes Caspers Regional Park

The following "Hard" and "Soft" Road Closures will remain:

Hard Road Closures:

- Trabuco Canyon Road and Trabuco Creek Road
- Santiago Peak Trailhead via Maple Springs

Soft Road Closures:

- Modjeska Grade Road and Santiago Canyon Road
- Modjeska Canyon Road and Santiago Canyon Road
- Silverado Canyon Road and Santiago Canyon Road

Regrading the re-opening of the Ortega Highway, drivers should expect heavy delays due to work crews entering and exiting from Orange & Riverside Counties. Intermittent closures should be expected as repairs to critical infrastructure continue. Do not expect a normal flow of traffic.

The link below can be used to assist the public in determining if their property is in an area that is under evacuation order or warning: [OCSheriff.gov/AirportFire](https://ocsheriff.gov/AirportFire). Visit the link and enter an address in the search field and press enter.

Fire crews remain actively engaged in suppression efforts. Visitors are reminded to stay out of the area affected by the fire, and refrain from recreational use of roads, trails, switchbacks and areas until the fire is fully contained.

The Orange County Sheriff's Department will continue to have a strong presence in the repopulated and evacuated areas for the next several days to ensure the protection of our residents and their property.

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Release authorized by: Janice Watt Title: DES

Email or Faxed/time: _____

Sent by: ORANGE COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER