

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the Torrance City Council  
City Hall  
Torrance, California

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT: Fire Department – Accept a donation of five thermal imaging cameras from the Torrance Fire Fighters Association.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the Fire Chief that City Council accept a donation of five thermal imaging cameras from the Torrance Fire Fighters Association (TFFA).

**Funding**

Not applicable.

**BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS**

The TFFA received a donation of five new thermal imaging cameras from an anonymous donor and would like to donate the cameras to the Torrance Fire Department. The five thermal imaging cameras are Draeger 3200 with accessories (five spare batteries, five truck chargers, five lanyards, and one video handle), valued at \$62,500. (See attached letter from TFFA.) These cameras are handheld units with 3.5” screens that enable firefighters to see heat rather than light. They can help find unconscious victims in smoke-filled rooms, pinpoint the sources of fires, and detect structural dangers before they cause injury and death. With this donation, the Fire Department will have a total of seven thermal imaging cameras.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM RACOWSCHI  
Fire Chief

  
By Neli Mileva  
Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:

  
William Racowschi  
Fire Chief

  
LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager

Attachment A. Letter from TFFA



# TORRANCE FIREFIGHTERS

## LOCAL 1138

September 11, 2008

Greetings Chief Racowski,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I write this letter. A Torrance citizen, who would like to remain nameless, has graciously donated \$125,000 to the Redondo Beach Firefighters to be used to supply 10 brand new thermal imaging cameras to the Redondo and Torrance Fire Departments. On August 30<sup>th</sup> 2008, The Torrance Firefighters Association took delivery of 5 of these thermal imaging cameras.

By augmenting our 2 existing cameras, this donation will play a vital role in keeping the TFD on the cutting edge of modern firefighting technology. Firefighters from both Redondo and Torrance have been researching and field testing various models over the past year. Jointly, we have come to the conclusion that the Draeger 3200 was the right fit for our departments. This much appreciated donation includes 5-3200 Thermal Imaging Cameras, 5 spare batteries, 5 truck chargers, 5 lanyards, and 1 video handle.

The TFFA would like to donate these cameras and accessories to the Torrance Fire Department. We would also like to work with TFD management to place these cameras on our front line fire engines so they will be available for use at any emergency within the city of Torrance.

Please accept this donation on behalf of a concerned and pro-active citizen so that we may better serve all citizens of Torrance.

Sincerely,

Blayne Baker  
Trustee, TFFA