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VINELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT TO BE FEATURED ON THE WEATHER CHANNEL

VINELAND, NJ: The City of Vineland Fire Department will get some well-deserved national recognition when they are featured as part of an episode of the popular Weather Channel original series Hurricane 360. The hour-long episode titled Rain Of Terror recaps their story and other real-life events which occurred when Hurricane Irene hit New Jersey in August of 2011.

According to the show’s producers, “The episode tells the story of Hurricane Irene as it carves a path of destruction along the East Coast pushing rivers to hundred-year flood levels or higher and washing whole towns and villages off the map. Rain Of Terror follows the storm and its aftermath, allowing survivors and rescuers to tell their terrifying stories in their own words, and featuring never before seen footage shot by the survivors themselves.”

During Hurricane Irene, the Vineland Fire Department was called upon to rescue five people who became trapped in a stream off of Dante Avenue north of Menantico Lake near Ferrari Drive and Panther Road. Rushing waters from the storm had flipped a boat carrying three young adults. The three were soon joined by a father and a family friend who had waded into the rapidly flowing water with life preservers.

As part of the episode, Vineland Fire Director Bob Ternay and Station 5 Captain Donald Fiocchi (who both participated in the rescue), and two of the individuals who were trapped in the stream, are able to tell their first-hand stories of the day’s events. Producers and a crew from Hurricane 360 were in Vineland during the month of May to tape segments for the episode. “Donald and I were in the boat that rescued the five individuals in trouble, but it was a team effort of about 25 volunteers and career staff who helped pull off the rescue,” Director Ternay said.

Rain of Terror debuts on the Weather Channel on Monday, September 8, at 9:00 pm and will be rebroadcast at other times during the week and beyond.