



City of
OAKLAND
California

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nine Additional Victims of 31st Avenue Fire Identified by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Coroner's Bureau

We have confirmed 36 victims in the Oakland 31st Avenue Fire. At this time, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Coroner's Bureau has provided the names of 9 additional victims and notified their families. They include:

Billy Dixon, 35, Oakland, Calif.
Johnny Igaz, 34, Oakland, Calif.
Ara Jo, 29, Oakland, Calif.
Amanda Kershaw, 34, San Francisco, Calif.
Griffin Madden, 23, Berkeley, Calif.
Vanessa Plotkin, 21, Oakland, Calif.
Hanna Ruax, 32, Helsinki, Finland
Nicole Siegrist, 29, Oakland, Calif.
Alex Vega, 22, San Bruno, Calif.

The previously identified victims include:

Cash Askew, 22, Oakland, Calif.
Matthew Bohlka, 33, Oakland, Calif., who lived her life as Em Bohlka
David Cline, 24, Oakland, Calif.
Micah Danemayer, 28, Oakland, Calif.
Chelsea Dolan, 33, San Francisco, Calif.
Alex Ghassan, 35, Oakland, Calif.
Nick Gomez-Hall, 25, Coronado, Calif.
Michela Gregory, 20, South San Francisco, Calif.
Sara Hoda, 30, Walnut Creek, Calif.
Travis Hough, 35, Oakland, Calif.
Donna Kellogg, 32, Oakland, Calif.
Edmond Lapine, 34, Oakland, Calif.
Jennifer Morris, 21, Foster City, Calif.
Justin Fritz, 29, Berkeley, Calif. who lived her life as Riley Fritz
Benjamin Runnels, 32, Oakland, Calif.
Jennifer Kiyomi Tanouye, 31, Oakland, Calif.
Brandon Chase Wittenauer, 32, Hayward, Calif.

An additional victim is a 17-year-old minor whose name will not be released. The Alameda County Sheriff's Office Coroner's Bureau is identifying the victims to the public by the names their families ask for, and will note the legal name, if different, on the official death certificate, according to law. They are consulting with an LGBT diversity consultant to assist in appropriate gender identification.

The identified victims' families have been notified. The City of Oakland extends condolences to the families who have received the dreadful news that one of their loved ones perished in the fire.

(more)

During this tremendous time of loss and grief for the families and friends of the victims, the City of Oakland encourages the media to respect their need for privacy.

Our city has experienced a tremendous tragedy. As a community, we can come together in recovery and spirit. A roster of community events honoring the victims and links to donation sites including the Oakland Fire Victims site established by the Oakland A's (www.tinyurl.com/OakFireRelief) can be found at oaklandnet.com..

The Family Assistance Center will remain open until the recovery process is concluded. It will be open Wednesday, December 7, from 8:00 am. to 8:00 p.m. Support services will continue to be offered after the center closes.

At a 6 p.m. press conference, Congresswoman Barbara Lee joined Mayor Libby Schaaf and representatives from the Oakland Fire Department, Oakland Police Department and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

At the press conference, Mayor Schaaf shared that a local state of emergency has been proclaimed. The proclamation will go before the Oakland City Council at a special meeting on Thursday, December 8, for ratification. The proclamation is accessible on oaklandnet.com.

The Mayor also touched on the history of Planning & Building complaints on the warehouse at 1315 31st Avenue and adjacent vacant lot. A summary of these complaints can be found on oaklandnet.com and supporting records will be uploaded in phases overnight.

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