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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Close Call, But Family Is Safe

Eight Ducklings Rescued from Buena Park Storm Drain

Buena Park, Calif It took some coaxing, but Mama Duck ultimately stayed with her eight little ones after they were rescued from a storm drain on Beach Blvd., directly across from Knott's Berry Farm this morning. The Orange County Fire Authority from Buena Park Station #61 received a call for puppies trapped in a storm drain at Beach Blvd. and La Palma Ave. They learned upon arrival that there were, in fact, eight brown-and-tan Mallard hybrid ducklings, huddled in the storm drain with a very concerned mother duck nearby.

After firefighters carefully rescued the ducklings and placed them in a plastic trash can, SEAACA Animal Control Officer Denise Wilson and her ride-along from the spcaLA arrived and contemplated how best to reunite a very angry (and vocal) mother duck with her babies. "The mama duck was walking towards us and squawking, but we knew that the intersection was just too busy to release the babies" said SEAACA officer Wilson. "We ended up taking one baby out of the trash can, showing the mother, waited at the crosswalk till we got the go-ahead signal to cross, and walked across Beach Blvd. to a pond directly across from Knott's," Wilson said. "The mother followed us closely, even staying within the boundaries of the crosswalk."

Buena Park Police assisted with traffic control to ensure the safety of all involved. "It was so sweet to see the concerned mother duck quickly take stock of her little ones and swim off together as a family," stated Wilson. "This is why I love my job."

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