



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

POST OFFICE BOX 3009, TERMINAL ANNEX  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90031

RICHARD H. HOUTS  
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN  
CHIEF ENGINEER  
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS  
FIRE CHIEF  
OF THE CITIES OF

STANLEY E. BARLOW  
CHIEF DEPUTY

Monday, July 15, 1974

Mr. Jerry Mac Mullen  
382 Glorietta Blvd.  
Coronado, California

Dear Jerry:

In response to your letter, we in the Los Angeles area "speak of" our stations and engines as they do in San Diego. It is "Nines" or "One Fifty Ones" and when written, it is possessive (15's, 165's). You are certainly correct that it varies across the nation. Most Eastern cities use the "Twelve Engine" as you mentioned. We have discussed it many times and do not know the reason for the localism. In conversation, we refer to the company and house and the men "belong" to it. That may be part of the reason, if there ever was one.

I was in New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia and several other major eastern cities last year, and they said "Fifteen Truck," etc. So the tradition still carries on.

I have enclosed a little information on our Department. Welcome to the Pioneer Hook and Ladder Club, which used to make an annual train trip up here to spend the day with us. What with the fuel crisis, etc., it had to be discontinued.

Good luck and have fun fire buffing.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD H. HOUTS  
Chief Engineer

*Dick Friend*

DICK FRIEND  
Community Relations Officer



ARTESIA  
BALDWIN PARK  
BELL  
BELLFLOWER  
BELL GARDENS  
BRADBURY  
CARSON  
CERRITOS  
COMMERCE  
CUDAHY  
DUARTE  
GLENDORA  
HAWAIIAN  
GARDENS  
HIDDEN HILLS  
HUNTINGTON PARK  
INDUSTRY  
IRVINDALE  
LAKEWOOD  
LA MIRADA  
LA PUENTE  
LAWDALE  
LOMITA  
MAYWOOD  
NORWALK  
PALMDALE  
PARAMOUNT  
PICO RIVERA  
ROLLING HILLS  
ROLLING HILLS  
ESTATES  
ROSEMead  
SAN DIMAS  
SIGNAL HILL  
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