



PRESS RELEASE

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT EARNS CAL/OSHA GOLDEN GATE RECOGNITION FOR EXEMPLARY SAFETY PRACTICES

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (December 16, 2025) – The Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District) has earned Golden Gate Recognition from Cal/OSHA Consultation Services, a distinction awarded to employers with effective health and safety programs. The recognition followed a comprehensive evaluation of the District's Fountain Valley campus in November.

"This recognition reflects our team's commitment to safety and excellence," said OCWD President Denis R. Bilodeau, P.E. "Protecting our employees is essential to maintaining the reliable, high-quality water supply our communities depend on."

OCWD's Fountain Valley campus serves as the District's administrative and operational hub. It houses the main administration building, a state-certified water quality laboratory, and the Groundwater Replenishment System—the world's largest advanced water purification project for indirect potable reuse. Approximately 200 full-time employees work at the site, supporting both administrative functions and water treatment operations.

Cal/OSHA's evaluation included a site walkthrough, employee interviews, and a review of five years of injury logs and 10 District safety programs, including the Injury and Illness Prevention Program and Workplace Violence Prevention Program. No hazards were identified, affirming the strength of OCWD's safety practices.

This recognition underscores OCWD's strong safety culture and its investment in training, safety infrastructure, and operational integrity. These efforts are essential to supporting the District's mission of providing a reliable, high-quality water supply to 2.5 million people in north and central Orange County.

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