

January 4, 2011

“DIXON FIRE STATION DESIGNATED AS SAFE BABY SURRENDER SITE”

Dixon, CA – The City of Dixon Fire Station, known as Station 81, located at 205 Ford Way in Dixon has been designated by the Dixon City Council and the Solano County Board of Supervisors as a “Safe Baby Surrender Site”. Those who are unwilling or unable to care for an infant can surrender the baby to the Fire Department, 24 hours a day, no questions asked and without fear of criminal prosecution.

The Safe Baby Surrender Law, or SBB, is intended to spare the life of an infant by encouraging parents or persons with lawful custody to safely surrender an infant at a “safe surrender site” within 72 hours of the child’s birth rather than abandoning them in an unsafe location, avoiding sometimes tragic consequences. Abandoning a baby puts the child in extreme danger, it is also illegal. Too often this results in the baby’s death. Because of the alternatives provided by Safe Baby Surrender Law, this does not ever have to happen in California again.

Firefighters in Dixon recently completed training on the procedures for accepting a surrendered infant. The Fire Station has been adorned with the Safe Baby Insignia, identifying it as a safe location. Infants will receive medical attention and will be transported to an area hospital for evaluation. The surrendering parent will be provided information and a unique bracelet for identification purposes in case the baby is later reclaimed. The parent or person with lawful custody has 14 days from the time of surrender to reclaim their baby.

This program has resulted in hundred of infants being surrendered throughout the State of California since the inception of the program. Fire Chief Aaron McAlister states “the Dixon Fire Department is pleased to be a participant in the program. Making this option available helps protect the community we serve.”

Dixon Family Services assisted with launching this program. They have donated valuable supplies that will be needed should an infant be delivered to our location.

For more information you can reach the Dixon Fire Department at 707-678-7060. The 24 Safe Baby Hotline for Solano County is 800-544-8696.