

SERVING WOODSIDE, PORTOLA VALLEY, EMERALD HILLS, LADERA LOS TRANCOS, SKYLINE AND VISTA VERDE

## FOR RELEASE

## THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS ASSIST IN EXTINGUISHING HOUSE FIRE

Foundation Seeks Funds for Specialized Equipment

WOODSIDE, Calif. – December 17, 2010 – Key to the efficient response to the fire in a guest house on Mission Trail in Woodside on December 9, 2010, was the use of special cameras called thermal imaging cameras or "TICs." After the initial blaze was controlled with water, Woodside Fire Protection District (WFPD) firefighters used TICs to detect remaining heat inside the house walls in order to fully extinguish the fire.

WFPD Captain Bob Bender, whose crew was first to arrive at the scene, said they used the TICs to single out hot spots instead of opening up all the interior walls of the house. "TICs enable us to catch the fire smarter and quicker when it's inside the walls," he said.

WFPD first equipped its engines in 2000 with TICs, which cost about \$10,000 each. Equipment like these specialized cameras is one of the areas for which the Woodside–Portola Valley Fire Protection Foundation helps raise funds.

Established in 2009, the Woodside-Portola Valley Fire Protection Foundation (www.FireDistrictFoundation.org) works to augment the budget of the Fire District for up-to-date equipment, facilities, fire prevention and training. The Board is comprised of a team of community volunteers and Fire District staff. In February, 2011, Woodside resident Rudy Driscoll will begin a term as Board president and Portola Valley resident Lorrie Duval will serve as vice president. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Contact information: 650.851.1594 or info@FireDistrictFoundation.org.

For More Information

## Press Contact:

Jessica Lonergan, Board Member Woodside-Portola Valley Fire Prevention Foundation 650.400.7166 Jessica@SpurProjects.com