



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Mark A. Hartwig**  
*Fire Chief / Fire Warden*

**DATE:** February 5, 2015  
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## Residential Fire in Mentone

**Incident Date/Time:** February 5, 2015 – 10:14 am

**Location:** 31000 Block of Nice Ave in Mentone

**Incident:** Residential Structure Fire

**Summary:** At approximately 10:14am on Thursday morning, the San Bernardino County Fire Department was dispatched to a report of a residential structure fire in the 31000 Block of Nice Ave in Mentone. San Bernardino County Fire Engine 9 in Mentone arrived within 4 minutes upon receiving the call, and found a single story residence with light, black smoke coming from the rear of the house.

Firefighters were greeted immediately outside by the home owners, stating that the fire started in the microwave, and that all occupants were evacuated. Upon entry through the front door, County Fire Fighters were faced with decreased visibility due to a thick layer of black smoke in the home. The audible alarm from multiple smoke alarms could also be heard upon entering, which contributed to the resident's safety. The fire was immediately located in the kitchen, with flames rolling across the ceiling and coming from the stove area. Due to the quick actions of the firefighters, the fire was quickly extinguished.

Heavy damage was sustained to the kitchen area, including damage to the attic. The San Bernardino County Fire Investigator's probable cause of origin is from a possible defective microwave. A preliminary estimate in damage is approximately \$15,000.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department provided one Fire Engine, one Fire Truck, a Medic Squad, and one Battalion Chief to contain and control the structure fire. Two Fire Engines and one Fire Truck from Redlands Fire Department and CalFire provided assistance on scene, contributing to a successful and safe fire scene. No injuries were reported.

Courtesy photos can be located at [www.sbcfire.org](http://www.sbcfire.org) under latest news.

**San Bernardino County Fire Department recommends that every home have at least one fire extinguisher in every floor, but it's important to ensure you have the proper type of fire extinguisher.**