

PRESS RELEASE

JOHN MCMAHON, SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: July 30, 2013 at 4:00pm

INCIDENT: ARSON/ ATTEMPT MURDER/ RESISTING A PEACE OFFICER

LOCATION: Lucerne Valley

SUSPECT: Marc Cardona, 34, of Apple Valley

SUMMARY:

This morning at 12:58am, deputies received a 911 call regarding a house fire in the 11800 block of Moreno Road in Lucerne Valley. The occupied house sustained major damage; however, all the occupants inside the residence made it out uninjured.

At 2:46am, deputies received a report of 3 additional vegetation fires in Lucerne Valley. Deputy Alan Pennington responded to the vegetation fires and located evidence at the scene he believed to belong to the suspect. Deputy Pennington continued the investigation and was able to locate evidence connecting the vegetation fires and the house fire. A Detective from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Departments Arson/Bomb Division and an Arson Investigator from the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to assist with the investigation.

Evidence collected during the investigation assisted deputies in identifying the arson suspect as Marc Cardona. Cardona was located at his girlfriend's residence in the 11900 block of Cove Road in Lucerne Valley. When Deputy Pennington made contact with Cardona he attempted to flee on a bicycle. Cardona then fought with Deputy Pennington as he was attempting to handcuff him and place him under arrest. Pennington learned that Cardona tried to set his girlfriends residence on fire before he fled.

Marc Cardona was arrested for 5 counts of arson, 1 count of attempted murder, and for assaulting a peace officer. He was booked at the Victor Valley Jail where he is currently being held in lieu of \$175,000.00.

"The diligent investigation by Deputy Alan Pennington and the cooperative effort with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Departments Arson/ Bomb Division and the San Bernardino County Fire Department has placed a dangerous individual behind bars" stated Sergeant Jim Evans.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is urged to contact Deputy Alan Pennington at (760) 552-6800. Callers wishing to remain anonymous are urged to call the We-tip Hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463) or you may leave information on the We-Tip Hotline at www.wetip.com.

Refer: Staci Johnson

Station: Victor Valley

Phone No: 760-552-6845

Case No:

JOHN MCMAHON, Sheriff-Coroner
San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner Department