

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: March 29, 2015 CONTACT: Daniel Nelson, Captain, Public Information Officer (760) 733-4026

Toyota Prius Collides With Fuel Tanker Truck

Date/Time:March 29, 2015 – 6:10 AMLocation:Interstate 15 – 10 miles north of BakerIncident:Traffic Collision – Prius Collides with Fuel Tanker Truck

Summary: Firefighters from San Bernardino County Fire (SBCoFD) Station 53 in Baker responded to a traffic collision involving a passenger car and a semi-truck hauling gasoline.

Upon arrival, firefighters found a Toyota Prius with major damage to the back end of the car. The vehicle had been struck by the fuel tanker truck while trying to change lanes and exit the freeway after the driver had discovered that the car had ran out of fuel. The driver of the Prius suffered minor injuries and was transported to a Las Vegas area hospital by Baker Ambulance. The passenger sustained more serious injuries and was airlifted to a trauma center in Las Vegas. The driver of the semi-truck was uninjured.

The incident blocked all northbound lanes of traffic for approximately two hours before CHP was able to clear the lanes and restore normal traffic flow.

Safety Message: The San Bernardino County Fire Department reminds the public to always wear seats belts when traveling in motor vehicles. Seat belts save lives!!!

To view photos from the incident please visit us at <u>www.sbcfire.org</u>.

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157 West Fifth St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, Ca. 92415-0451

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