



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief

DATE: *June 13, 2012*
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Early Morning Fire Torches Victorville Apartment

Date/Time: **June 13, 2012, 4:06 a.m.**
Location: **15000 Block of Seventh Street, Victorville**
Incident: **Apartment Fire**

Summary: Shortly after 4:00 a.m., the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to an apartment on fire in the 15000 block of Seventh Street in the City of Victorville. The first engine arrived on scene five minutes after dispatch to find heavy fire blowing out of a bedroom window of a multi-unit apartment building.

First arriving firefighters discovered a large amount fire in the back bedroom and extending into the adjacent rooms of the 700 square foot apartment. County Fire crews made a quick and aggressive attack of the fire, bringing it under control and keeping the flames from spreading to the adjacent apartments located on both sides.

Eighteen fire personnel responded to the scene and took approximately twenty minutes to knock down the blaze.

One resident was treated on scene for a minor burn to the hand, which occurred while he tried to extinguish the fire with a fire extinguisher prior to fire crew arrival.

Damage is estimated at \$50,000. Firefighters saved \$150,000 of structure value and \$150,000 of content value which included an attached restaurant at the front of the complex.

A fire investigator responded who determined the fire cause to be an unsupervised candle in the bedroom. No smoke detector was noted to be installed in the dwelling. Occupants reported that there was no smoke detector activation and stated they awoke due to smell of smoke.

Seventh St. was closed for one block in both directions due to the fire and fire equipment for about one hour.

Great cooperation from Apple Valley Fire Department, American Medical Response, and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office allowed for quick incident mitigation.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department would like to remind the public that unattended candles are one of the leading causes of home fires and fire fatalities. Always have proper clearance up, down and around the burning candle and never leave the room without first blowing the candle out.

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