

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: July 7, 2014 CONTACT: Jon Garber, Captain/ Public Information Officer (909) 307-4388

## Fire Consumes Home, Two RV's and a Storage Building

Date/Time: July 6, 2014 4:02pmLocation:66100 Block of Coyote Valley Road, Joshua Tree, CAIncident:Residential Structure Fire

**Summary:** At 4:02pm, San Bernardino County Fire responded to a report of a residential structure fire on the 66100 block of Coyote Valley Road in Joshua Tree, CA.

Multiple fire units reported seeing a large column of smoke in the clear afternoon sky as they responded to the fire. Upon arrival, the first in unit reported one residential structure fully involved in fire with exposures. Exposures included two recreational vehicles and a storage building, both in danger of catching fire. Firefighters had trouble deploying hoses to the right side of the structure due to an active electrical power line being down in that area. Firefighter made an aggressive attack on the fire in 106 degree heat that was only worsened by the heat of the blaze. Firefighters extinguished the fire and kept it from spreading into the nearby brush.

No civilian injuries were reported but one firefighter was transported to Hi-Desert Medical Center for heat exhaustion. The firefighter was treated and later released back to full duty. The 724 square foot home was a total loss estimated at \$37,000. Investigators determined the cause of the fire to be an electrical cord plugged in to the home that was powering an evaporative cooler in one of the recreational vehicles on the property.

Five engine companies, one water tender, one rescue (breathing and light support), three firefighter paramedic ambulances, one fire investigator and one battalion chief were assigned to the incident. Morongo Valley Fire and Combat Center Fire provide mutual aid.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department would like to remind you to have and practice a home escape plan, including your family's meeting place.

Courtesy photos can be found at <u>www.sbcfire.org</u> under latest news.

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