



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*Fire Chief*

**DATE:** 2/9/2013

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### **Barbecue ignites garage and vehicle on fire.**

**Date/Time:** 2/9/2013 - 7:06PM

**Location:** 8000 Block of Lebec Rd, Phelan

**Incident:** Residential Garage Fire

At 7:06 pm, the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a possible Garage fire on the 8000 block of Lebec Rd in Phelan. 14 County firefighters responded to find a fully engulfed vehicle and garage in a single family residence. Fire crews were able to keep the fire from spreading into the living area and had a quick knockdown of the flames. There was no injuries to the occupants or firefighters reported. The fire and smoke damages to the garage and residence is approximately \$65,000 dollars while firefighters were able to save over \$150,000 in property.

The cause of the fire was determined to be an unattended charcoal barbecue that was being used inside the garage for cooking.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department wishes to remind everyone that all barbecues, gas or charcoal, should be used in open outside areas away from any flammable materials. It is also recommended that they always have an attendant nearby in case of flare-up, or with propane grill, when the flame is blown out and a gas explosion can occur.

Charcoal barbecues are especially dangerous indoors and unventilated areas due to the dangerous Carbon Monoxide gas and toxic smoke that they produce. The gas and toxic smoke can cause death or permanent injury in a matter of minutes to the exposed user.

Additionally, with the cold weather upon us, barbecues should never be used as a warming source indoors, an enclosed area or vehicle.

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