

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: February 26, 2018 CONTACT: Jeremy Pendergraft, Engineer/PIO (760) 881-4751, 800-426-8689

Joshua Tree Structure Fire Claims One

Date/Time: Friday, February 23, 2018 1:00 p.m.Location:60700 block La Mirada Trail Joshua TreeIncident:Residential Structure Fire with Fatality

Summary: This afternoon, San Bernardino County Fire responded to reports of a residential structure fire in the 60700 block of La Mirada Trail in the town of Joshua Tree. While enroute, units were advised that a victim was possibly trapped inside the home.

Firefighters arrived on scene to find heavy smoke and fire coming from the rear of a single story, single family structure. Crews began a primary search for victims while engaging the fire in an offensive attack ultimately bringing the fire under control in approximately 18 minutes.

During the secondary search, an adult female as well as two cats and a dog were located deceased. There were no other occupants on the property at the time of the incident.

Three engine companies, a medic patrol, medic ambulance, chief officer and investigator totaling 15 personnel from County Fire were assigned to the incident. Damage estimates as well as the cause of the fire are still being determined.

The primary search, is an attempt to check all places where a victim would likely be. This differs from a secondary search which assesses all places a victim could possibly be.

County Fire would like to remind the public that it is never safe to re-enter a building where there is a suspected fire. The safest practice is to evacuate first then call 911 from an outside location.

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