

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: Monday, February 1, 2016 CONTACT: Jeremy Kern, Captain Public Information Officer (760) 998-1458

## 2-Alarm Blaze Consumes Two Buildings at Decommissioned Air Force Base

**Date/Time:** Monday, February 1, 2016 10:26 A.M. **Location:** Nevada Ave / George Blvd. Victorville, CA

**Incident Type:** Commercial Structure Fire

Just before 10:30 this morning, San Bernardino County Fire responded to a report of a structure fire in the area of Nevada Road and George Road on the former George Air Force Base. Multiple reports began coming into the 911 center, and smoke was visible from miles away.

The first units on scene were County Fire resources from the Southern California Logistics Airport crash rescue station. They reported multiple abandoned multi-residential structures on separate blocks well involved with fire. High winds in the area were pushing fire through the buildings and threatening a rapid expansion of the blaze. A second alarm was dispatched and doubled the resourced assigned to the incident.

County Fire initiated a defensive attack due to the percentage of the buildings' fire involvement. This technique successfully confined the burn to the properties of origin and maintained the highest degree of firefighter safety.

Sixty-one firefighters and three chief officers were ultimately assigned to the incident including one aircraft rescue engine, six fire engines, one truck company, one brush patrol, and three water tenders brought in to supplement the vast quantity of water necessary to combat the fire. Two hand crews from County Fire's Camp 6 were assigned to assist in overhaul operations. Apple Valley Fire Protection District provided one engine company under a mutual aid agreement.

There were no injuries to civilians or firefighters. The cause of the fire remains under investigation by the Office of the Fire Marshal and San Bernardino County Sheriff's Arson/Bomb detail.

County Fire reminds the public the importance of, "If you see something, say something." Please report any suspicious immediately by notifying authorities.

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