

NEWS RELEASE

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DATE: July 15, 2014 CONTACT: Dean Dickover, Captain, Public Information Officer (760)617-7396

2 Needles Homes Burn within a Week

Date/Time: July 9th and July 15th, 2014 Location: Needles, California. Incident: Residential Structure Fires

Summary: 500 block of Quivera St.

Just after 1:00 a.m. on July 15th, The San Bernardino County Fire Department received reports of a home on fire. When firefighters arrived on scene minutes later, they found a vacant residence well involved in fire with two adjacent structures threatened. Firefighters quickly knocked down the fire that was threatening the other structures and then went to work on the rest of the fire. The fire was eventually extinguished with the assistance of Mohave Valley Fire Department. A total of 15 firefighters worked on the incident including 3 engines, two patrols, 2 battalion chiefs, a fire investigator and a Rehab unit. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department also sent an investigator. The fire caused extensive damage to the structure, estimated at \$45,000. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Summary: 100 block of Cibola St.

Just after 7:30 p.m. on July 9th, The San Bernardino County Fire Department received calls reporting a home on fire in the 100 block of Cibola St. When the first engine arrived on scene just 4 minutes later, they found a home with heavy smoke coming from multiple doors and windows of the home. The crew aggressively attacked the fire through the front door and into the home, hampered by large amounts of furnishings and other materials as well as multiple room additions throughout the residence. With the assistance of Mohave Valley Fire Department, aggressive firefighting efforts continued for almost 2 hours. The crews were eventually able to extinguish the stubborn fire, saving the majority of the structural components. Sadly however, the interior contents were mostly destroyed by heat and smoke.

A total of 12 firefighters assisted in the incident including 3 engines, a patrol unit, a division chief, and a fire investigator, as well two rehab personnel from Mohave Valley Fire Department. The cause of the fire has been determined to be electrical in nature. The damage to the home is estimated to be \$40,000.00.

A family of three was displaced by the blaze and was assisted by the Red Cross with temporary accommodations. For pictures of these incidents and safety tips, see <u>www.sbcfire.org</u>.

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