

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 CONTACT: Eric Sherwin, Public Information Officer (909) 547-5080, 800-426-8689, pager #7346

ARSONIST STARTS TWO VEGETATION FIRES IN VICTORVILLE

Date/Time: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 3:15pm Location: Mariposa Rd. north of Nisquali Rd. Victorville, CA Incident: Arson

At approximately 3:15 this afternoon, units from the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a reported vegetation fire in the area of Mariposa Rd. and Nisquali Rd. in the City of Victorville. A well-developed column of black smoke was visible throughout the Victor Valley when the first arriving engine reported a fire established in the trees in an open field north of the Scandia Family Fun Center.

Fast work by County firefighters quickly stopped the forward spread and ultimately contained the fire at one-half of an acre. The fire was determined to have originated in a homeless encampment located in a grove of trees.

During the initial attack, firefighters noticed a separate fire starting approximately 300 yards east of the original burn. Additional County Fire units responded and discovered a large debris pile measuring 100 x 50 feet burning in the field. Aggressive work by suppression personnel confined the fire to the debris pile and prevented escape into the surrounding vegetation.

Investigation by County Fire's Office of the Fire Marshall has determined both fires to be human caused and intentionally set. Anyone with information related to these incidents is asked to call 800-47-ARSON.

San Bernardino County Fire Department would like to remind its citizens that we have arrived at the peak of a critically dry fire season. Please, if you see something, say something.

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