



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: *March 3, 2013*
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Apartment fire displaces 24 residents

On March 03, 2013 at 3:23 p.m. a first alarm commercial structure fire assignment was dispatched by the San Bernardino County Communications Center for an apartment house fire in the 11500 block of White Ave. in the Town of Adelanto.

Upon arriving on scene several minutes after dispatch, the first-in engine found heavy smoke and fire coming from one unit, located on the second floor of the eight unit apartment building. A quick attack was made on the fire along with the truck company going up on the roof to cut holes to ventilate the heat and toxic gases. It took San Bernardino County Fire units approximately 15 minutes to bring the fire under control. First in units found multiple apartments were still occupied and rushed to rescue occupants and remove them from harms way. It was also noted a young girl was running from door to door alerting residents as well. In addition a thorough primary search was made during fire attack and it was found that all occupants had made it out safely without any injuries.

3 Chief Officers along with 10 engine companies, a truck company and rescue were dispatched after the first arriving chief officer upgraded the assignment to a second alarm. Those resources came from the City of Adelanto and the surrounding areas including The City of Victorville, Hesperia, Oak Hills, and a mutual aid assist from the Apple Valley Fire Department.

The cause of the fire is under investigation at the present time. Fire damage was confined to two apartments with smoke and water damage to 7 of the 8 other apartments. 24 residents were displaced due to the fire; the building was red tagged by city officials.

The Red Cross was notified and arrived on scene to assist displaced residents with shelter. The apartment complex management also assisted with the relocation of displaced residents to empty apartments in the same complex.

Safety Message: Have you ever heard that funny chirping noise in your house which resonates from the ceiling? It is your smoke detectors' battery failing and it needs to be replaced. Please change out your batteries at a regular interval, such as every time change with day light savings time.