



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FONTANA TRUCKING YARD FIRE HELD IN CHECK

Incident Date/Time: Jan. 24, 7:45 pm
Location: Intersection of Washington and Live Oak, Fontana
Type: Multiple vehicles, equipment and vegetation fire

A trucking supply yard containing 2-3 acres of semi-trucks, shipping containers, equipment and parts suffered damage last night as a wind-whipped evening fire threatened to consume dozens more vehicles as well as disrupt traffic along the nearby I-10 freeway. With quick action crews were able to save the majority of vehicles and equipment in the yard.

Just before 8pm, County Fire crews from Battalion 1 in Fontana received reports of what was initially described as a vegetation fire but had been immediately changed to a commercial structure fire at a supply and storage yard abutting the freeway. A large column of smoke and flames could be seen for several miles as first-in units reported heavy fire engulfing a storage-type structure and several vehicles while torching adjacent trees.

With winds in the area between 25-40 mph, crews first contended with difficult access, as the crowded lot kept units from immediately reaching the main portion of fire. Lot employees assisted with helping firefighters gain access. Once crews were in position, they initiated an aggressive fire attack, deploying hose lines from multiple angles, and were able to bring the fire under control in less than 30 minutes. A SBCoFD water tender was used to shuttle water since water supply in the area was limited.

Several residential structures on the periphery of the property were not impacted.

With the heavy winds, smoke was reported to be blowing across the I-10 freeway, disrupting traffic and causing concern. The quick knockdown of the fire helped ensure no accidents occurred.

Fontana Police and California Highway Patrol assisted with traffic issues and secured the scene.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

County Fire crews in Fontana regularly deal with the complexities strong winds add to the fire. Crews prepare for wind events by monitoring forecasts and initiate fire suppression tactics accordingly. A wind advisory remains in effect for the area until at least noon Sun., Jan. 25.

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