

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief

DATE: 4.23.2013 CONTACT: Bret Raney, Public Information Officer (909) 887-2727, pager #1507

Fire damages multiple apartments in Fontana

Date/Time: April 22, 2013 Location: 16370 Arrow Fontana Incident: Structure fire

Summary: At approximately 5:37 p.m. eleven fire units from the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a structure fire in the City of Fontana. The first in unit reported that a two story, multi unit apartment complex had heavy fire coming from the first and second story windows. The building was comprised of eight separate units, four on the first floor and four on the second floor. These units were divided by a partition wall, which separated the building in half. This is known as a firewall. This firewall prohibited the fire from spreading to the other four units.

The fire caused heavy damage to two units and various stages of smoke damage occurred to the other apartments. Due to extensive fire damage and electrical concerns, all eight apartments were left either uninhabitable or temporarily uninhabitable. The fire was extinguished in approximately twenty minutes and no injuries were reported.

Investigators have determined that a child playing with a lighter in the closet ignited the fire. The parents of the child were at home as was the upstairs tenant. All escaped un-harmed. The dollar loss is estimated to be approximately\$300,000.00.

San Bernardino County Fire Department would like to remind you to insure that all lighters, matches and other flammable materials are safely stored. These materials should not be accessible to children. Also, be sure that the smoke detectors in your home are in proper working condition. ***End of story***

157 West Fifth Street, 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, Ca. 92415-0451