



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief

DATE: *March 15, 2012*
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Two School Buses Burn at Daycare Facility

Date/Time: *March 15, 2012, 3:43 a.m.*
Location: *16100 Block of Foothill Blvd., Fontana*
Incident: *Bus fire*

Summary: Two small, school type buses caught fire in front of a daycare facility in Fontana. Fire investigators determined that person(s) attempting to steal gasoline from the vehicles sparked the fire. The incident at the Kinder Care Daycare in the 16100 block of Fontana was reported at 3:43 a.m. Fire units were on scene within 5 minutes and reported two vehicles burning and an exposure to an additional bus parked close by. Firefighters were able to keep the fire from spreading to the other bus and also to the daycare facility itself, although minor damage did occur to some playground equipment.

During extinguishment, firefighters located a small pump and hoses nearby which could be used to extract fuel from a tank. County fire investigators found that someone was likely pumping fuel from one of the buses when a spark from the pump itself or the vehicle electrical equipment ignited fumes from the illegal operation. So far, no suspects have been found or taken into custody.

Damage was estimated at \$80,000 for the two buses. Fourteen county firefighters responded.

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