



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief*

DATE: *February 26, 2013*
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Blaze at Grow House Injures Firefighter

Date/Time: February 26, 2013 1:30 a.m.
Location: 17000 block of Spencer Rd., Victorville
Incident: Residential Structure Fire

0130 AM

San Bernardino County Fire Units responded to a residential structure fire on the 17000 block of Spencer Rd. at 01:30AM. The first arriving unit found a single story residence with smoke coming from the attic vents of the home. Once inside, firefighters found heavy fire in the attic space and were able to stop the spread by cutting multiple ventilation holes in the roof of the home. While attacking from above, crews inside the home were attacking from beneath and quickly extinguished the blaze.

During the firefight, crews found 30-40 mature marijuana plants in a large grow room located in the main bedroom area. Law enforcement was called and secured the farm which is now being investigated as a possible crime scene. One firefighter was injured when he came in contact with a live wire from the grow farm's illegal modification of electrical wiring. Power was turned off by crews, but the modifications bypassed the breaker and SCE meter leaving a potential deadly electrical hazard for firefighters. Fortunately, the extent of his injuries were minor, and he did not require transport to a hospital. Five Victorville fire units and one Adelanto fire engine responded with a total of 16 personnel.

The majority of the damage was confined to the attic space and ceiling area with an estimated damage cost of \$20,000. Suppression efforts saved the remaining structure valued at more than \$70,000. The cause was still under investigation at the time of this release along with the Sheriff investigation.

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