



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: *Friday, November 8, 2013*
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PLAYING WITH FIRE LEADS TO CHILD BURN INJURY

Date/Time: Thursday, November 7, 2013 6:48 PM
Location: 1200 block Oriole Road Wrightwood, CA
Incident: Burn Victim

Yesterday evening, San Bernardino County Fire responded to a reported burn victim in the 1200 block of Oriole Road in the Town of Wrightwood. Initial reports from the frantic caller were unclear and confusing. Erring on the side of caution, a full Residential Structure Fire response was started by County Fire.

Medic Engine 14 was the first unit on scene and reported no fire upon their arrival. They did however locate a pre-teen female with significant burns to approximately 20% of her body including her face. The patient was treated and stabilized by County Fire paramedics then transferred to an awaiting air ambulance for transport to the regional burn center.

Investigation into the incident revealed that three girls had removed gasoline from an ATV on the property, placed it in a glass, taken it to a playhouse located in the backyard of the residence, and lit the fuel on fire. An approaching adult startled the children who subsequently knocked over the glass. The lit fuel immediately flashed and ignited one female's clothing. Reacting quickly, the other two girls and the adult smothered the flames with a blanket; however the explosive nature of the flash fire had already caused its damage.

San Bernardino County Fire asks that parents and guardians take a few moments to discuss with their children and young ones the hazards of playing with fire. As past incidents have taught us, these tragedies are both identifiable and avoidable through education and open discussion. For more information on how to talk to minors about fire danger, please go to www.safekids.org/fire.

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