



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: *Monday, October 14, 2013*
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2-ALARM BLAZE DESTROYS VICTORVILLE LANDMARK

Date/Time: **Monday, October 14, 2013 12:05 AM**
Location: **Rinconsito Del Mar Mexican Restaurant**
14678 Seventh Street Victorville, CA
Incident: **2nd Alarm Commercial Structure Fire**

Just after midnight, San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a reported building on fire at the intersection of Seventh Street and La Paz Drive in the City of Victorville. The first units arrived on scene less than four minutes after dispatch to discover the Rinconsito Del Mar Mexican Restaurant with heavy smoke and fire bellowing from the rear of the structure.

An aggressive offensive attack was initiated by County Fire personnel, however the percentage of building involved with fire was too great and forced firefighters to retreat. Shortly after transitioning to a defensive strategy, HVAC units on the roof crashed into the main part of the building. The restaurant is attached to a commercial strip mall, and although firefighters had to switch to a defensive attack, they were able to confine the fire to the restaurant and prevent any damage to the adjoining businesses.

It took just under two hours to control the blaze and required the efforts of eight County Fire engines, two truck companies, and a heavy rescue unit, comprising 31 firefighters in addition to three personnel from the Apple Valley Fire Protection District. The restaurant is deemed a total loss with damage estimated at \$400,000.

No injuries to civilians or firefighters were reported. The cause remains under joint investigation by County Fire's Office of the Fire Marshal and San Bernardino Sheriff's Arson & Bomb detail.

Rinconsito is a landmark in the City of Victorville having served customers for many decades. The restaurant was closed at the time of the fire.

For photos of the incident, please go to www.sbcfire.org and click on "Latest News."

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