



NEWS RELEASE

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DATE: September 20, 2013
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Back Yard Fire Destroys Home, Damages Others

Date/Time: Friday, September 20, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
Location: 14400 block of Harmony Lane, Victorville
Incident: Residential Structure Fire

San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to reports of a fire burning in the back yard of the Harmony Lane residence. Upon arrival, firefighters were faced with 15 MPH winds, with gusts upward to 25 MPH. Blowing embers had caught the roof of an adjacent home on fire. Knowing all residents were safely out of the homes, firefighters immediately went into attack mode.

Thirty firefighters from San Bernardino County Fire, with the assistance of 2 engines from Apple Valley Fire, brought the fire under control within 45 minutes.

The 2-alarm blaze destroyed one home and damaged two others. Firefighters were instrumental in keeping the blaze from spreading to a home on the south side, as well as a detached garage on the north side. The fire started in the back yard of the Harmony Lane residence, destroying two vehicles, numerous pallets, cardboard and debris, as well as a wood fence.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire Investigators. Structural damage to all three residences is estimated at over \$125,000.

A female adult resident sustained radiant heat injuries and was transported by American Medical Response to a local hospital. A male resident from the Harmony Lane home tried to extinguish the fire prior to fire personnel arrival. He sustained minor injury and will seek his own treatment. There were several chickens in the back yard that escaped the fire. The American Red Cross was requested for the displaced residents comprised of six adults and four children.

San Bernardino County Fire Department would like to remind its citizens that *it is never safe to enter a structure where there is a suspected or confirmed fire*. The best action is to safely evacuate and then call 911 from a location outside of the burning structure. No belongings are worth losing one's life.

Photos available at www.sbcfire.org under latest news.

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