



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Crews encounter power lines down, quickly knockdown structure fire

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 2:51 pm
Location: 200 Block of East 19th Street, City of San Bernardino
Incident: Structure fire

Summary: At 2:51 PM #SBCoFD crews were dispatched to a reported structure fire in the 200 block of East 19th Street in the City of San Bernardino. While in route, responding units were updated that 911 callers stated there may be residents inside the home, an ambulance was quickly requested.

BC128 arrived within six minutes of dispatch to find a single-story home with smoke and fire showing from the rear of the home. Multiple engine companies & T224 quickly arrived and immediately went to work, making a primary search an incident priority. While crews were setting up for vertical ventilation and fire attack, power lines burned through, leaving energized lines in front of the home. The incident commander immediately completed a "Life Hazard Alert", letting each crew on scene of the hazard and requested Edison. Crews also successfully kept the fire from spreading to an adjacent home and vegetation. Primary and secondary searches of the home came up clear. The fire was ultimately knocked down in approximately 20 minutes. The fire is under investigation by San Bernardino County Office of the Fire Marshall Investigators. The home was severely damaged by the fire, no damage estimates were available at the time of the release. Five occupants were displaced by the fire, Red Cross was requested to assist with temporary housing.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with five Engines, a Medic Squad, a Truck Company, a Battalion Chief and a Fire Investigator. American Medical Response responded with one paramedic ambulance.

Your ability to get out of your home during a fire depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning

Fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as one or two minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Pull together everyone in your household and make a plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible exits and escape routes. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors.

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Make an Escape Plan

It is important to have a plan when there are children in your home. Children sometimes need help getting out of the house. They may not know how to escape or what to do unless an adult shows them.

Have a plan for young children who cannot get outside by themselves. You will need to wake babies and very young children and help them get out. In your plan, talk about who will help each child get out safely.

It is important to learn two ways out of every room in your home, in case one exit is blocked or dangerous to use.

Remember, if there is smoke, you need to get low and go to your exits. So, practice getting low and moving to your exits.

Choose a safe meeting place a safe distance from your home. Children should know what to do when they hear a smoke alarm and there is no adult around. Help them practice going to the outside meeting place. Teach them to never go back inside a building that is on fire.

Have a home fire drill at least twice a year. So, everyone can practice what to do if the smoke alarm sounds.

Looking for additional information on fire safety, visit sbcfire.org.

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