



NEWS RELEASE

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Early Morning Fire Damages Two Homes in Fontana

San Bernardino County Fire Investigators have determined that an electrical malfunction is the cause of a structure fire that damaged two houses in the city of Fontana. The fire in the 15700 block of Barbee St. was initially reported to be a fire at nearby Almeria Middle School. Fontana Police Officers searching the area were able to pinpoint the exact location for firefighters. The initial arriving company found heavy fire on one side of a two-story home with flames impinging on the house next door, but quick work by county firefighters kept the damage to the adjacent home to a minimum.

Investigators were able to narrow down the area of origin to an electrical circuit in the living room of the house. From there the fire spread quickly through the exterior wall and into furnishings in the living room. The bulk of the damage, estimated at \$15,000 for the house and \$4000 in contents, was isolated to that area of the home. Both residents were at work at the time of the incident. Firefighters were able to rescue 3 dogs and a cat from the home.

There were no injuries to civilians or the 19 county firefighters that responded. Fontana Building and Safety was requested to determine the structural stability of the home before it is turned back over to the owners.

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