



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wind driven fire destroys home in El Rancho Verde

Date/Time: February 29, 2012 5:28 am
Location: 5795 Magnolia, Muscoy
Incident: Structure Fire

Summary: Units from San Bernardino County Fire Department and Rialto Fire Department responded to a structure fire at 5795 Magnolia in the county area of El Rancho Verde. Nine units responded to the incident which took approximately one hour to contain.

The owner was asleep in his bedroom when he was alerted by a newspaper deliveryman about the fire. The deliveryman was delivering the papers to local residents when he saw the fire near the corner of the garage in the trash can area. He then tried repeatedly to awake the occupant by pounding on the doors and windows. Finally the owner came to the door and escaped the blaze without injury.

As the first in unit arrived, the wind driven fire had fully engulfed the garage and began to spread through the attic. A second alarm was immediately called for. The house suffered major damage and was almost completely destroyed.

Dollar loss to the structure is yet to be estimated which was left un-inhabitable. Investigators believe the fire cause was due to discarded fireplace ashes placed in a plastic trashcan.

Firefighters believe that if it were not for the actions of the deliveryman, the owner could have easily perished. Before discarding of any ashes into the trash can, the ashes should be soaked in water for a day or two in a metal container.

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