

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: September 12, 2015 CONTACT: Jon Garber, Captain/ Public Information Officer (909) 307-4388

Occupant and His Dog Escape from House Fire

Date/Time:September 12, 2015 01:22pmLocation:2000 Block of Zenja DriveIncident:Residential Structure Fire

Summary: At 1:22pm Firefighter's from San Bernardino County Fire and three other neighboring agencies, responded to a residential structure fire at the 2000 block of Zenja Drive in Mentone, California.

The first arriving unit found a one story home with the attached garage fully involved in flames. Firefighters could not make access to the home using the front driveway because of the live power lines that had burned and dropped across the area. Firefighters pulled fire hose around the home next door, through their backyard and made an aggressive attack on the fire. Fire crews also used hose lines to protect the home next door that was exposed to the flames. That home only suffered minor damage. Firefighters had the fire under control at 2:00 pm, approximately 30 minutes after arrival.

One occupant and his dog were home at the time the fire started. "I was playing video games when I smelled smoke, so I grabbed my dog and went out the front door to find the house on fire," stated the occupant. Both the occupant and the dog escaped the fire without injury.

Four fire engines, two truck companies, two battalion chiefs from San Bernardino County Fire, Redlands Fire Department, Cal Fire and the U.S. Forest Services responded to the incident

No injuries to civilians or firefighters were reported. The damage to the home is estimated at \$200, 000. The cause of the fire was due to a natural gas leak located in the garage.

San Bernardino County Fire would like to remind you that electricity can be dangerous. For safety's sake, always consider power lines live or energized, and never touch or approach a downed power line.

Courtesy photos can be located at <u>www.sbcfire.org</u> under latest news.

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