

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: May 3, 2012 CONTACT: Eric Sherwin, Public Information Officer (760) 947-2674, 800-426-8689, pager #7346

## HAND GRENADE FORCES EVACUATION OF FIRE STATION

Date: Thursday, May 03, 2012 Time: 10:52am Location: San Bernardino County Fire Station #22 12550 Jacaranda Avenue Victorville, CA 92395

Late Thursday morning, a hand grenade was delivered to San Bernardino County Fire Station #22 in Spring Valley Lake forcing the evacuation of the station and surrounding area for approximately two hours.

A local resident discovered the explosive device while cleaning out the garage of his home and brought it to the fire station for safe disposal. It is unknown how long the grenade had been in his garage.

The evacuation included closing portions of Fish Hatchery and Jacaranda roads as well as a section of the Spring Valley Lake golf course. Classes at Victor Valley College were not affected.

Personnel from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Arson/Bomb unit were called to the scene where it was determined that the grenade was inert posing no threat of explosion.

Devices like hand grenades can become more dangerous over time as safety features start to degrade. The San Bernardino County Fire Department reminds everyone not to move any device they feel may be dangerous or explosive. Fire stations are not equipped to store nor will they accept explosives or weapons of any kind. Calling 911 is the safest way to handle these situations.

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