



NEWS



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Pedestrian walking along Highway 138 struck and killed Monday evening

Kevin Trudgeon, Daily Press

Posted: October 10, 2017, 8:17 AM

PHELAN — A pedestrian was struck and killed on Highway 138 late Monday morning, authorities said. According to California Highway Patrol officials, David Garcia, 59, of Fontana, was driving a 2002 Chevrolet Suburban east on Highway 138, west of Mountain Road, at approximately 10:41 p.m.

For unknown reasons, a man was walking east on Highway 138 in the middle of the eastbound lane. Garcia attempted to stop the Suburban, authorities said, but he was unable to do so before striking the pedestrian.

“After striking the pedestrian, Garcia immediately stopped his vehicle and called 911,” CHP officials said. CHP officers responded to the scene and immediately began treating the pedestrian. **San Bernardino County Fire** personnel arrived on scene shortly after CHP officers and began CPR.”

Despite the life-saving efforts, the pedestrian succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased at 10:57 p.m.

At this time alcohol and/or drug consumption are not believed to be factors in the collision, according to authorities. The identity of the pedestrian is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The collision is still under investigation and anyone with information is urged to contact Officer M. Blackwood at the Victorville CHP Office at 760-241-1186.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20171010/pedestrian-walking-along-highway-138-struck-and-killed-monday-evening>

Small vegetation fire is extinguished in northwestern Fontana on Oct. 9

Fontana Herald News

Posted: October 9, 2017, 3:23 PM



Fire crews extinguish a fire in northwestern Fontana on Oct. 9. (Contributed photo by Mike Myers)

A small vegetation fire was extinguished in northwestern Fontana on the windy afternoon of Monday, Oct. 9, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

The fire was reported at 1:02 p.m. east of the Cherry Avenue on-ramp at the Route 210 Freeway, said Public Information Officer Eric Sherwin.

Multiple firefighting resources, including hand crews and a bulldozer, arrived at the scene and limited the blaze to about one-half acre.

The eastbound Cherry on-ramp was closed for a brief period while firefighters put down the fire. The Fire Department is concerned about the threat of wildfires because of the strong, gusty winds that routinely plague the local area during October and November.

http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/small-vegetation-fire-is-extinguished-in-northwestern-fontana-on-oct/article_79b196e4-ad40-11e7-acf1-e3d8132d93bc.html

Three Injured In Off-Road Vehicle Rollover Crash Saturday

Z107.7 News

Posted: October 9, 2017

Three people were injured when their off-road vehicle overturned in Johnson Valley. About 5:40 p.m. Saturday, a rock-crawler-type vehicle rolled over in the Means Dry Lake off-highway vehicle area. Although the roll-over happened near the Desert Run fundraising event, it was not a part of it. County Fire Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle said a 27-year-old man had serious injuries and was flown by Mercy Air to Arrowhead Medical Center. A 26-year-old man and 25-year-old woman received minor injuries and they were taken by Morongo Basin Ambulance to Hi-Desert Medical Center.

<http://z1077fm.com/three-injured-in-off-road-vehicle-rollover-crash-saturday/>

Man killed in Hesperia hit-and-run

Martial Haprov, Daily Press

Posted: October 7, 2017, 6:01 PM

HESPERIA — Officials called out to the public Saturday morning to find the driver of a vehicle that struck and killed a pedestrian before fleeing the scene.

San Bernardino County Sheriff's authorities said deputies from its Hesperia Station and **San Bernardino County Fire** personnel responded to a report of a vehicle colliding with a pedestrian at 3:12 a.m. Saturday on Main Street near the intersection of Topaz Avenue.

Deputies at the scene determined a vehicle traveling eastbound on Main Street struck a male pedestrian and failed to stop, fleeing the scene, according to a sheriff's news release. The victim suffered fatal injuries in the incident and was pronounced dead at the scene.

All lanes of Main Street between Topaz and Pyrite avenues were closed for about seven hours Saturday morning as the sheriff's Major Accident Investigation Team processed the scene.

The victim remained unidentified as of Saturday evening and sheriff's officials asked the public for any information related to the incident including identity of the involved vehicle and its driver.

Authorities urge anyone with information to contact deputies Eric Getts or Jeremy DeBerg at 760-947-1500, ext. 4530 or report anonymously to WeTip at www.wetip.com or 800-782-7463.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20171007/man-killed-in-hesperia-hit-and-run>

Motorcyclist thrown from the bike, killed on 10 Freeway crash in Colton

Monica Rodriguez, Daily Bulletin

Posted: October 7, 2017, 5:04 PM

COLTON >> A motorcyclist died Saturday morning after he tried to avoid debris on the 10 Freeway and was thrown from the bike, the California Highway Patrol reported.

The motorcyclist's name has not been released pending notification of his family, according to the San Bernardino County coroner's website.

The crash, which occurred on the westbound 10 Freeway east of Riverside Avenue, was reported about 4:45 a.m. Saturday, said Officer Brian Alvarez, with the San Bernardino office of CHP.

Early information indicates the incident occurred shortly after a motorist traveling west on the 10 Freeway in a Nissan Sentra lost control of his car and crashed into the center guard rail, Alvarez said. The car became disabled and was blocking the two inside lanes of the road.

A second car, a Kia Forte, hit the debris and stopped in the two inside lanes, Alvarez said. It wasn't clear whether the driver stopped or if the car became disabled.

The motorcyclist saw the debris on the freeway and attempted to avoid it by veering to the right; however, the motorcyclist was thrown from the bike, Alvarez said.

Bystanders began administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation and **San Bernardino County Fire Department** personnel provided medical aid, but the motorcyclist did not respond, according to the County coroner's website.

The motorcycle driver was pronounced dead at 5:05 a.m. at the scene, according to the County Coroner's website.

<http://www.sbsun.com/2017/10/07/motorcyclist-thrown-from-the-bike-killed-on-10-freeway-crash-in-colton/>

Stack of mattresses 100 yards high burns in San Bernardino commercial fire

Monica Rodriguez, Daily Bulletin

Posted: October 7, 2017, 3:07 PM



Stack of mattresses 100 yards high burns in San Bernardino commercial fire

SAN BERNARDINO >> Firefighters from several agencies battled a blaze Friday night that consumed a pile of mattresses more than 100 yards high, a **San Bernardino County Fire Department** spokesman said Saturday. The fire, which is still under investigation, damaged a single story commercial building, said Eric Sherwin, spokesman for the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

The fire was reported at about 10:25 p.m. Friday in the 300 block of Oak Street in San Bernardino. Firefighters responded to the area after receiving a report that trees behind the building were on fire, Sherwin said.

When the first firefighters arrived, they found heavy smoke coming from burning mattresses that were stacked up outside the nearby commercial building, he said.

Fire personnel immediately called for additional firefighters and requested a hand crew to assist, Sherwin said. To ensure a mattress fire has been extinguished “you have to pull the mattress apart,” he said. “Hand crews have the tools, the capability and the sheer numbers” to handle such a job.

The fire spread and damaged the building. A damage estimate was not available Saturday, Sherwin said. Fire investigators are trying to determine the cause of the fire and whether it began in one spot or in several spots, Sherwin said.

About 80 firefighters, including two handcrews consisting of 40 people, helped extinguish the blaze, he said. Fire personnel from fire departments from Colton, Loma Linda and Rialto assisted.

Although the blaze was knocked down by midnight, firefighters were on scene into early Saturday, making sure all traces of the fire were out, Sherwin said. Firefighters returned to the scene of the fire late Saturday morning to go through the mattresses and other debris.

No injuries were reported.

<http://www.sbsun.com/2017/10/07/investigators-looking-for-cause-of-fire-in-massive-stack-of-mattresses-that-damaged-san-bernardino-commercial-building/>

Suspect arrested after pursuit in Victorville



A man led Victorville Deputies on a short pursuit that ended on Amethyst Road and Mojave Drive. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A man was arrested following a short pursuit Saturday afternoon that ended when he crashed into a street crossing sign.

It happened at around 2:40 p.m. in Old Town Victorville when the suspect failed to yield for an unknown traffic violation.

The suspect, described as a Black male adult, attempted to evade deputies by traveling at speeds of 90 miles per hour in a blue Dodge Journey, scanner traffic reported.

The brief pursuit ended moments later when the suspect struck a bicycle crossing sign at the intersection of Amethyst Road and Mojave Drive.

The vehicle, which had paper plates and was believed to be stolen, sustained damage to the front bumper and leaked liquids onto the street.

First Responders from the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** and AMR were summoned to treat the suspect for complaints of pain following the crash. The suspect was treated on scene and then promptly taken into custody.

<https://www.vvng.com/suspect-arrested-pursuit-victorville/>

One Killed and One Injured in Victorville Rollover Crash

247 Headline News

Posted: October 7, 2017

VICTORVILLE – One woman died and a second woman sustained major injuries after the driver of a black Pontiac G6 lost control causing her vehicle to overturn off of the roadway on Friday.

The incident was reported at 1:07 am just north of the intersection of Mariposa Road and Cottonwood Avenue. When deputies and emergency personnel arrived they located the woman trapped inside the vehicle, **San Bernardino County Fire** firefighters were able to extricate the woman, who was reported to be alert and talking. She was transported to Desert Valley Hospital in preparation to be airlifted to a trauma center for treatment of her injuries. The second woman, a passenger, died at the scene as a result of her injuries.

Through investigation, it was learned that the vehicle was driving north on Mariposa Road when the driver, for unknown reasons, left the roadway, rolled multiple times, approximately 70 yards off the roadway landed on its roof and temporarily caught on fire.

The cause of the collision remains under investigation. Mariposa Road, north of Cottonwood Avenue was closed both north and southbound for several hours while the collision was investigated.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact Deputy Adam Hylin at the Victorville Police Department, (760) 241-2911. Callers wishing to remain anonymous are urged to call the We-Tip Hotline at 1-800-78CRIME (27463) or you may leave information on the We-Tip website at www.wetip.com.

<https://247headline.com/one-killed-and-one-injured-in-victorville-rollover-crash/>

Blaze destroys Victorville home Friday

Paola Baker, Daily Press

Posted: October 6, 2017, 8:44 PM



San Bernardino County Fire firefighters put out a house fire at a residence in Victorville on Friday Evening [Daniel Diaz, For the Daily Press]

VICTORVILLE — Firefighters battled a blaze that destroyed a home here Friday evening. Reported just before 6 p.m., the blaze erupted at a home in the 16200 block of Pepper Tree Drive. **San Bernardino County Fire Department** personnel got a quick handle on the flames, but the home — already damaged by a previous fire — was destroyed by the fast-moving blaze.

According to County Fire Captain Jeff Allen, the first report came in at 5:53 p.m. Units arrived on scene within minutes and found “heavy fire through the roof on all sides of the home,” Allen said.

The home has previously burned before, Allen said, and several neighbors on scene told the Daily Press there was a fire at the home about a year ago. The damage from that fire was never repaired, according to Craig Walker, who lives down the block from the home.

Walker was first alerted to Friday’s blaze when he saw what looked like “a procession” of emergency vehicles down Pepper Tree Drive.

“I just saw all the lights from the vehicles and thought something must have happened,” Walker said. He decided to check it out, and saw the home ablaze, with a “column of smoke and flames” coming from its roof.

The flames were probably about 30 feet high,” Walker said. “I knew it was probably fully engulfed inside, just from how high the flames were.”

Some eastern winds blowing embers to nearby brush and homes became a top concern for firefighters, Allen said, who worked to stop the fire from further spreading. Personnel conducted a primary search and found no one inside. The blaze was knocked down by 6:23 p.m., Allen said.

“We’re going to go in again and conduct a secondary search to make sure there were no victims, but it appears to be vacant,” Allen said.

A total of 16 County Fire personnel responded to the blaze, including three paramedic engines, one truck company, one paramedic squad, a battalion chief and a fire investigator. Allen said city code enforcement was also notified to “red flag” the home, as the fire rendered it unstable.

“We don’t want any transients or bystanders coming in because the walls are unstable,” Allen said.

No injuries were reported due to the blaze, which remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20171006/blaze-destroys-victorville-home-friday>

San Bernardino County Fire reaches out to staff impacted by Las Vegas mass shooting

Joe Nelson, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: October 5, 2017, 7:06 PM



A girl places candles at a memorial for victims of the mass shooting Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017, in Las Vegas. A gunman opened fire on an outdoor music concert on Sunday. It was the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, with dozens killed and hundreds injured, some by gunfire, some during the chaotic escape. (AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez)

Top brass at the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** met Thursday with firefighters and other department personnel who attended Sunday's Route 91 Harvest country music festival in Las Vegas and witnessed the mass shooting.

The purpose of the 1 p.m. meeting at The Way World Outreach church in San Bernardino was to inform the roughly 20 employees and members of their families of crisis counseling and other services available to them, Capt. Dave Burkhart said.

Counselors from San Bernardino-based Counseling Team International and members of the Fire Department's Crisis Accountability Response & Education team, or CARE, were also in attendance, Burkhart said.

"This is to make some initial counseling available and provide them additional resources if needed," Burkhart said.

The 18 to 20 county fire employees who were attending Sunday's music festival in Las Vegas during their off time found themselves in the dual role of victim and first responder when gunman Stephen Craig Paddock fired a volley of gunshots into the crowd from a 32nd-floor window at the Mandalay Bay hotel.

Among the wounded were firefighter Mike Kordich, attending the concert with fellow firefighter David Arnold, who was shot in the right forearm while treating a concertgoer felled by gunfire. Arnold then came to Kordich's aid, stopping the bleeding and whisking him away to a taxi and taking him to the Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center, where Kordich was still recovering Thursday.

San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig said in a telephone interview Thursday that Kordich was scheduled to be released from the hospital Friday.



San Bernardino County Firefighter Mike Kordich recovering Tuesday in Las Vegas following Sunday's mass shooting. Also pictured are Ed Kelly (center), general secretary treasurer for the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), and Frank Lima (L), 10th District Vice President of IAFF.

Firefighters from other agencies in California and Arizona were also injured in the shooting.

Two counselors from Counseling Team International, plus three chaplains and seven peer support members from the CARE team were present during the debriefing, Burkhart said.

For decades, Counseling Team International has contracted with the county to provide crisis counseling for sheriff's deputies and firefighters. In 2015, it extended its services to include general county employees impacted by the Dec. 2, 2015, mass shooting at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino in which 14 people, including 13 employees of the county Environmental Health Services Division, died.

The shooting at IRC, committed by county health inspector Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, was declared an act of terrorism by the FBI. Farook and Malik were killed in a shootout with police hours after the attack.

Assistant Chief Ron Walls, who oversees the administrative side of the CARE team, said crisis management resources are essential in helping department personnel deal with the adverse impacts of the job.

"The stress, the impacts, the things we are exposed to are like carbon dioxide," Walls said. He said healthy habits need to be learned – coping skills – to help firefighters and other employees adjust. And that's where the CARE team and CTI come into play – a set of ears and a shoulder to lean on for affected department personnel who are not comfortable discussing such problems with family or friends.

Walls said he has been involved in variations of the department's CARE program since 2000, when he found himself ensnared in a medical crisis involving a family member.

"I fell off the face of the earth for six weeks," said Walls.

Wall said it was his "Fire Department family" who came through for him during one of his darkest hours. "Any need I had was met before I even realized I needed it," said Walls.

<http://www.sbsun.com/2017/10/05/san-bernardino-county-fire-reaches-out-to-staff-impacted-by-las-vegas-mass-shooting/>