



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief / Fire Warden



DATE: October 30, 2020
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Two Alarm Fire Damages Fontana Gas Station

Date/Time: October 30, 2020
Location: 3700 Block of Sierra Avenue, City of Fontana
Incident: Two Alarm Commercial Fire

Summary: This morning as 7:39 a.m., San Bernardino County Fire (SBCoFD) crews were dispatched to a reported commercial structure in the area of Interstate 15 and Sierra Avenue in the City of Fontana. Utilizing an automatic-aid agreement, Rialto also sent an engine. Crews arrived on-scene and found heavy smoke showing from a residential unit above a gas station. Crews initiated an offensive fire attack, with the priority being a primary search for potential victims and to limit the fires spread to the remainder of the building.

The building housed a residential unit, convenience store and adjacent gas pumps. Due to the size of the building and fire involvement, a second alarm was requested. The fire continued to grow despite a coordinated effort and interior attack. A North wind, common in the area also hampered progress. Due to compromise of the structure an operational retreat was declared. Crews transitioned from an offensive to defensive posture, utilizing ladder pipes and hand lines to suppress the fire. Due to the proximity to both USFS & CalFire land, both agencies sent equipment to stop any resulting vegetation fire.

The fire was ultimately knocked down in approximately 90 minutes. Fire crews managed to protect nearby exposures and vegetation. A fire investigator was requested to determine cause and origin. No damages estimates were immediately available, however the building received major damage. No fuel from the gas pumps was spilled or caught fire. A SBCoFD Hazardous Material team also responded. No injuries were reported.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with 9 Engines, 4 Truck Companies, 4 Chief Officers, a Safety Officer, an Air/Light Unit and Fire Investigator. Rialto FD assisted with 2 Engines & Rancho Cucamonga with an Engine.

While units were committed to the fire multiple SBCoFD engines and a truck were moved in to Division 1 stations. This ensures uninterrupted Fire, EMS & Rescue coverage while crews operated on the two-alarm fire.

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