



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Classroom fire damages portable building

On March 05, 2013 at 1:57 p.m., San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a reported fire in a modular classroom at Joshua Circle School, in the 10100 block of Eighth Ave, City of Hesperia.

Arriving on scene five minutes after dispatch, the first-in engine found smoke coming from one portable classroom located on the west side of the school grounds. A quick attack was made on the stubborn fire, which was found to be burning underneath the classroom floor in a void space. It took San Bernardino County Fire units approximately 15 minutes to bring the fire under control due to limited access under the classroom. Firefighters were successful in keeping the fire from spreading to the adjacent modular classrooms.

Three engine companies, a truck company, paramedic ambulance, and a chief officer were dispatched. Those resources came from the City of Hesperia and the surrounding areas including the city of Victorville and Oak Hills.

Joshua Circle School was in session at the time of the fire. The fire department wishes to commend the school officials for the great job evacuating the classroom of students and teachers prior to the fire department's arrival. School administrators and school police were immediately present to assist the firefighters with logistical needs.

After investigation it was found that work crews were using hot asphalt near the wooden structural members of the portable classroom causing ignition. Fire damage was confined to the one classroom room and the siding. There were no injuries to any civilians or firefighters.

Safety Message: Whether you are at home, work, or even school, remember to practice your E.D.I.T.H (Exit Drills in the home). All buildings should have emergency plans and designated exits identified. If the fire/smoke alarm goes off, remember to "get low and go"! Exit the building rapidly and safely, meeting up with others at a safe designated place outside.