



# NEWS



## News Headlines 3/07/2018

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## **Semi Overtakes Exiting I-15 at SR-138 Crashing into Shell Gas Station**

Staff Writer, 247 Headline

Posted: March 7, 2018

**PHELAN** – In an area where lives have been lost and others have been drastically changed, yet another collision occurred on Tuesday morning.

At around 8:00 a.m., the driver, Manuel Romero, 34, of Las Vegas was driving a 2012 Peterbilt Tractor, pulling a trailer loaded with hay was driving southbound on the I-15. He exited the freeway using the SR-138 exit. The semi failed to stop at the stop sign, going across SR-138 striking a 1999 GMC Yukon, which was heading east. “The Semi-truck continued straight, struck a series of steel barriers, and ultimately struck the rear of the convenience store,” CHP officials said in a written statement. “CHP units as well as the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department arrived on scene and found the driver of the Semi-truck and a passenger trapped inside.”

The driver and passenger of the semi-truck were extricated and suffered major non-life-threatening injuries as a result of the collision, The two were airlifted to a trauma center for treatment. The GMC, which was driven by **James Jefferson**, 52, of Palmdale, was left disabled in the roadway. Mr. Jefferson declined medical transport.

The collision caused extensive damage, including damage to the Shell Station located at 14949 Cajon Boulevard in Phelan causing temporary closure officials said. A Victorville man who witnessed the semi tractor-trailer collision said that it looked like the traffic collision may have been a result of brake failure. He also said that the semi was driving fast and passing vehicles prior to the collision.

This collision is still under investigation. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or may have additional information is asked to contact Officer Liddle at the San Bernardino CHP Area office at (909) 383-4247.

<https://247headline.com/semi-overtakes-exiting-i-15-at-sr-138-crashing-into-shell-gas-station/>

## Tractor-trailer overturns on Hwy 138 off-ramp, crashes into Shell gas station; two people hospitalized

Kevin Trudgeon, Daily Press

Posted Mar 6, 2018 at 9:50 a.m.



Two people were hospitalized after a tractor-trailer overturned and crashed into the Shell gas station off Highway 138 Tuesday morning. [Submitted Photo] 2) California Highway Patrol officials said the crash involved a 2012 Peterbilt semitrailer that was traveling south on Interstate 15 when it took the off-ramp for Highway 138, rolled over and continued into the gas station located across the street. [Submitted Photo]

**CAJON PASS** — Two people were hospitalized after a tractor-trailer overturned and crashed into the Shell gas station off Highway 138 Tuesday morning.

Reported at 8:02 a.m., California Highway Patrol officials said the crash involved a 2012 Peterbilt semitrailer that was traveling south on Interstate 15 when it took the off-ramp for Highway 138, rolled over and continued into the gas station located across the street.

The Peterbilt, driven by 34-year-old Las Vegas resident Manuel Romero, was pulling a trailer loaded with hay when it exited the freeway at Highway 138.

“For reasons still under investigation, the driver failed to stop at the stop sign at the top of the off-ramp, traversed Highway 138, and struck a 1999 GMC Yukon traveling east,” CHP officials said.

The Peterbilt kept going after the initial impact and struck a series of steel barriers before it ultimately struck the rear of the convenience store at the gas station, while the GMC became disabled, blocking traffic lanes. Romero and a passenger were trapped inside the Peterbilt and had to be extricated, officials said.

“County Fire has a heavy rescue team on scene for the complex extrication and damage to the structure,” said **San Bernardino County Fire** Department spokesman Eric Sherwin. “The first person was transported by ground and the second person was airlifted, both to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.”

CHP officials said Romero and the passenger both sustained “major, but non-life threatening injuries,” while the driver of the GMC declined medical attention.

A SigAlert was issued for eastbound Highway 138 and westbound traffic was being diverted to I-15 at the time of the crash. All lanes were reported to be open by 3:40 p.m., according to CHP officials.

Sherwin said the gas station was shut down due to the crash and a hazmat team was requested to respond to the scene for a fuel leak.

The crash is under investigation, and anyone who may have witnessed it or has further information is asked to contact Officer Liddle at CHP’s San Bernardino office at 909-383-4247.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180306/tractor-trailer-overturms-on-hwy-138-off-ramp-crashes-into-shell-gas-station-two-people-hospitalized>

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## **Two injured when truck loaded with hay crashes into convenience store in Cajon Pass**

**Mike Cruz, San Bernardino Sun**

Posted: March 6, 2018, 7:07 p.m.

Two people were injured Tuesday morning when a large truck loaded with hay exited the 15 Freeway, at Highway 138 in the Cajon Pass, and struck another vehicle before rolling over and colliding into a gas station convenience store.

Manuel Romero, 34, of Las Vegas, was driving the truck south on the 15 Freeway about 8 a.m. when he tried to exit at the Highway 138 offramp, according to a California Highway Patrol news release. For an unknown reason, Romero didn't stop at a stop sign at the top of the offramp, crossed Highway 138 and struck an eastbound 1999 GMC Yukon driven by James Jefferson, 52, of Palmdale.

The truck continued straight, hit a series of steel barriers and collided into the back of the store, according to the news release. Firefighters freed Romero and a passenger, who were trapped in the truck cab.

Both people suffered major but not life-threatening injuries and were taken by helicopter to a hospital. The Yukon driver declined medical aid.

This collision is under investigation. Anyone who witnessed the crash or has additional information can call Officer Liddle at the San Bernardino CHP area office at 909-383-4247.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2018/03/06/two-injured-when-truck-loaded-with-hay-crashes-into-convenience-store-in-cajon-pass/>

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## **Redlands fire chief retires; City Council honors battalion chief's years of service**

**Jennifer Iyer, The Press Enterprise**

March 6, 2018, 9:05 p.m.

Redlands Fire Chief Jeff Frazier's retirement was announced at the City Council meeting Tuesday, March 6, after the council discussed the matter in a closed session. It was added to the agenda as a "late breaking item." At the end of the nearly two-hour meeting Steve Rogers, a resident and frequent speaker during City Council meetings, called the chief's departure a "shock."

The City Council then unanimously approved a settlement agreement and mutual general release with Frazier. Earlier in the evening, the council celebrated another retirement from the Redlands Fire Department, honoring Battalion Chief David Graves who retired in December with a plaque for his years of service.

Graves said he has a vacation planned.

"I've spent over half my life here working for the Redlands Fire Department, over 30 years in the fire service, and it was time to get myself back to my wife" and family, he told the crowd. "They get me now."

He wished his former coworkers, many of whom attended the meeting, the best.

“Be safe out there, and take care,” he told the dozen or so firefighters in the crowd.

<https://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/2018/03/06/redlands-fire-chief-retires-city-council-honors-his-years-of-service/>

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## **Nine displaced by house fire: Blaze at Hesperia home initially started in nearby trailer**

**Paola Baker, Daily Press**

Posted: March 6, 2018, 5:50 p.m.

HESPERIA — A family was left displaced after a blaze tore through part of their home here Tuesday afternoon, officials said.

**San Bernardino County Fire** Department officials made quick work of the fire, which began at a home in the 10200 block of Redwood Avenue just before 1 p.m.

County Fire battalion Chief Joshua Sprague said firefighters initially responded to reports of a trailer on fire next to the home. As they arrived, the fire spread to the home’s roof.

“There are some plastic trash bins between the trailer and home. We believe the fire may have started there and then spread,” Sprague said.

The home’s occupants, a family of nine, were able to exit the home before firefighters arrived. A total of 15 County Fire personnel responded, including four engines, one truck, one battalion chief, one medic ambulance and a fire investigator.

Despite quickly dousing the flames, Sprague said the home sustained a significant amount of damage from the fire and the home’s residents were left displaced. Red Cross was requested to assist them. No injuries were reported.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180306/nine-displaced-by-house-fire-blaze-at-hesperia-home-initially-started-in-nearby-trailer>