



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: December 2, 2014
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Early Morning Apartment Fire Displaces Families

Date/Time: Tuesday, December 2, 2014, 2:15 a.m.
Location: 16300 block of Pebble Beach Dr., Victorville
Incident: 2nd Alarm Apartment Fire

Summary: San Bernardino County Fire received several reports of a 2-story apartment complex on fire at the Park View Apartments, located on the 16300 block of Pebble Beach Drive in the City of Victorville. Further reports stated there were several people trapped inside.

Units arrived within minutes, as they were leaving a previous call nearby. Upon arrival, residents were self evacuating and pointing to an upstairs apartment, stating there were people trapped in the apartment. Firefighters quickly deployed a ladder to the window and were able to bring five family members to safety. Witnesses stated a few residents jumped to safety from the 2nd floor through a back window. Firefighters conducted a cursory search of the remaining three apartments to ensure all occupants were evacuated. San Bernardino County Sheriff deputies evacuated four more adjacent apartments as a precaution.

With an aggressive attack, 23 County firefighters, with the assistance of one engine from the Apple Valley FPD, had the fire knocked down within 30 minutes. Firefighters were instrumental in keeping the fire contained to the one apartment with moderate damage to another.

The female adult and sole occupant of the apartment in which the fire originated, was transported by American Medical Response to a local hospital due to complaint of chest pain. She did not sustain any burn injuries. The American Red Cross responded to assist two displaced families, one family consisting of three adults and one child, the other two adults and one child.

San Bernardino County Fire Investigator Hector Trevino stated the fire started in the living room of the apartment and was not arson related but caused by smoking material. The fire remains under investigation. It is unknown if there were working smoke detectors in every apartment, however the smoke detectors in two of the apartments had activated. In all, one downstairs apartment (point of origin) was destroyed, the apartment above received moderate fire damage and two others received smoke and water damage. Preliminary damage assessment is estimated at about \$500,000.

San Bernardino County Fire advises you should never smoke where oxygen is being used. Smokers should try and smoke outside, and remember before you throw out butts and ashes, make sure they are out and doused in water or sand. AND, remember to check and change your smoke detector batteries every 6 months.

Courtesy photos can be located at www.sbcfire.org under latest news.

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