



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Mark A. Hartwig**  
*Fire Chief / Fire Warden*

**DATE:** August 15, 2017  
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## **Arsonist Attempts to Burn Down Car Wash**

**Date/Time:** Monday, August 14, 2017, 3:05 p.m.  
**Location:** 500 block N. Flores St., San Bernardino  
**Incident:** Arson Fire to Commercial Structure  
**Suspect:** Renee Hernandez Jr., Age 30, San Bernardino

**Summary:** On August 14<sup>th</sup>, firefighters responded to the Happy Boy Car Wash, a vacant car wash located on North Flores St. in San Bernardino. Upon arrival, firefighters began an aggressive attack, quickly extinguishing the fire and keeping it contained to the point of origin.

When firefighters arrived on scene, Renee Hernandez told them he lit the fire. A SBCoFire Investigator arrived shortly after and upon questioning Hernandez, it was determined he intentionally set the fire and was arrested. Hernandez was transported by San Bernardino PD to West Valley Detention Center where he was booked for arson, trespassing and a San Bernardino Municipal Code violation. Bail was set at \$150,000.

Hernandez had been living inside the business and for unknown reasons lit the drive-thru bay on fire; causing \$5,000 in damage to the covered drive-thru and attached structure.

“San Bernardino County Fire has a no tolerance stance against arson. Arson fires are an attack on innocent victims and puts firefighters at unwarranted risk. Fire Investigators are taking an aggressive approach towards arsonists and if found to be involved in arson, they shall be prosecuted to the fullest extent,” said Fire Marshal Mike Horton.

Six engine companies responded, containing the fire within 25 minutes. There were no injuries to civilians or firefighters.

Anyone with further information is asked to contact We-Tip at 800-47-ARSON (800-472-7766) or SBCoFire Dispatch at 909-356-3805. **“See something, Say Something”**

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