



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief

DATE: *February 26, 2012*
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Man Sustains Burns Trying to Stop Mobile Home Fire

Date/Time: **February 26, 2012, 4:57 a.m.**
Location: **Totem Pole Mobile Home Park, 12700 block of Mariposa Road, City of Victorville**
Incident: **Mobile Home Fire**

Summary: San Bernardino County firefighters responded to an early morning 2-alarm structure fire at the Totem Pole Mobile Home Park in Victorville. Upon arrival, they found one single-wide mobile home completely engulfed and fire spreading to adjacent single-wide mobile homes on each side. Several citizens were attempting to put out the fire.

Firefighters aggressively fought the blaze and were successful in saving one mobile home and keeping the other from being a complete loss. Although the fire was extinguished within 35 minutes by 24 San Bernardino County firefighters, the original structure was a complete loss. Three vehicles were also destroyed in the fire.

An 11 year old juvenile who was asleep inside the mobile home stated he awoke to the smell of smoke. When he looked out the front window, he saw the porch on fire and woke the two male adults inside. All three escaped without injury. However while trying to contain the fire before firefighter arrival, a 54 year old male subject, a relative of the homeowner, sustained major burns and was airlifted to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton. Occupants from the adjacent two mobile homes evacuated safely.

It appears the fire started on the front porch. The cause of the fire is under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire Investigators with the assistance of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Arson/Bomb unit. The American Red Cross responded to provide assistance to the displaced residents.

Residents stated the smoke detectors in the home were operational but did not know if they activated because they had already evacuated the home prior to the fire reaching the interior. The peak time for home fire fatalities is between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most families are sleeping. Smoke alarm maintenance is a simple, effective way to reduce home fire deaths. Children and senior citizens are most at risk, and a working smoke alarm can give them the extra seconds they need to get out safely. Non-working smoke alarms rob residents of the protective benefits home fire safety devices were designed to provide. San Bernardino County Fire remind you to changing smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, testing those alarms and reminding others to do the same are some of the simplest, most effective ways to reduce deaths and injuries.

Courtesy photos are available at www.sbcfire.org under latest news.

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