



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Firefighter's Battle Fire in Turn of the Century Home in San Bernardino

Incident: Residential Structure Fire

Date / Time: Thursday December 8th, 8:05am

Location: 1000 South Waterman, San Bernardino

San Bernardino, CA- at approximately 8:05am San Bernardino County Firefighters in San Bernardino were dispatched to a multiple-report structure fire assignment in the 1000 Block of South Waterman Ave. Firefighters reported heavy smoke showing from nearby fire stations. ME-231 arrived in 5-minutes to find heavy smoke from multiples sides of the home and the attic. Firefighters went in to the attack mode, utilizing vertical ventilation to evacuate hot smoke & gases from the home, allowing Firefighters to push inside. Firefighters worked feverishly to knock down the fire, however had to transition to a defensive approach and battle the fire from the outside.

The home, built in 1896 had multiple void spaces and additions which made it difficult to access the fire. The home also was constructed with "balloon framing" a style of framing which utilizes long studs that run uninterrupted from the foundation to the roof with no fire stops. This style of framing allows the fire to run up walls and into the attic quickly and is challenging for firefighters. The home was vacant at the time of the fire however there were reports of transient activity in the area prior to the fire.

It took more than hour to control the fire, as the fire was well-involved throughout the 2,000 square foot home. The home was so severely damaged from the fire, an emergency demolition team was called to take down the home. No injuries to firefighters or the public were reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation by San Bernardino County Office of the Fire Marshall. Damage to the home is estimated at \$265,000. (4) Medic Engines, (1) Truck Company, (1) Battalion Chief and (2) Fire Investigators responded to the fire. Loma Linda FD and Colton FD also responded to the fire to assist.

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