

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: December 15, 2016 CONTACT: Captain/PIO Dan Nelson

(909) 665-2380

FIREFIGHTERS HAVE BUSY MORNING IN SAN BERNARDINO

Date/Time: December 15, 2016, 3:47am

Location: (1) 200 block Ennis St., (2) 1300 block "D" St. - San Bernardino, CA

Incident: Residential Structure Fires

San Bernardino, **CA**-Firefighters from San Bernardino County Fire responded to two separate structure fires in the City of San Bernardino overnight. Both fires were reported just before 4:00 AM. The first fire was on the 200 block of E. Ennis St. The first arriving firefighters reported smoke coming from the gable vents of a 1500 sq. ft. abandoned home. Command was established and offensive fire attack was started.

Interior fire crews reported that the fire had burned through portions of the sub-floor and was burning in the attic as well. It took fire crews approximately 20 minutes to knock down the fire. During the fire attack a search for victims was conducted and no people were found in the structure.

A fire investigator arrived on scene and determined that the fire was caused by squatters living in the home. There are no suspects at this time. In total, two fire engines, a ladder truck and a battalion chief from San Bernardino County Fire responded, as well as, a fire engine from Colton Fire and one from Loma Linda Fire. There were no reports of injuries to firefighters or civilians.

The second fire was reported six minutes later at 3:53 AM on the 1300 block of N. "D" St in San Bernardino. The first arriving firefighters found a 2000 sq. ft. single story abandoned home with heavy fire coming from the attic and rear of the home. Firefighters began an offensive fire attack shortly after arrival. The home appeared to have under gone through multiple renovations over the years using a mixture of both older and more modern construction techniques. The meshing of the construction techniques created void spaces which made extinguishment of the fire extremely difficult. It took crews approximately an hour and 30 minutes to extinguish the fire.

Four fire engines, one ladder truck, a battalion chief, and a fire investigator from San Bernardino County Fire responded to the incident. There were no injuries to firefighter or civilians. The cause of the fire is under investigation at the time of this writing. The two fires don't appear to be related.

###