



## NEWS RELEASE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**DATE:** June 28, 2012  
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### **Firefighters Contain 2-Alarm Commercial Fire**

**Date/Time:** June 27, 2012, 6:15 p.m.  
**Location:** 8600 block of Beech Ave., Fontana  
**Incident:** Pallet Yard Fire Destroys One Business and Damages Another

**Summary:** On the evening of June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m., units from the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to multiple reports of a commercial structure fire in the area of Whittram Ave. and Beech Ave. in the City of Fontana. The first on-scene engine reported a well established pallet yard fire that had extended into a butler style building doing business as an auto body shop. A defensive fire fighting operation was initiated, often referred to as "surround and drown".

A two-alarm assignment consisting of 8 fire engines, 2 fire trucks and 3 Chief officers were able to contain the fire to the original area and structure involved, with some moderate damage to the exterior of an adjacent commercial business. Assistance was received from the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Department. The fire took approximately one hour to extinguish and required several hours of mop-up operations.

The auto body building containing an unknown number of vehicles was completely destroyed, with another building sustaining moderate damage. Several piles of pallets and equipment were also destroyed or damaged. Firefighters were instrumental in keeping the fire from spreading to numerous other vehicles outside the auto body shop and nearby structures. No damage estimates at this time.

The cause of the fire is yet to be determined and is being investigated by San Bernardino County Fire and Sheriff Investigators. There were no evacuations of the neighboring area. No injuries were reported to any firefighters or civilians. Traffic was temporarily diverted from the area while both Whittram Ave. and Beech Ave. were shutdown to through traffic by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department recognizes the importance of the public accurately reporting the location of a fire, but often bystanders can hinder firefighting operations. So please, once you report the location of a fire, evacuate the area so that incoming units have ample space for their firefighting and rescue efforts.

Photos are available at [www.sbcfire.org](http://www.sbcfire.org) under latest news.

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