

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Daniel R. Munsey Fire Chief / Fire Warden









DATE: 11/25/2023

CONTACT: Mike McClintock, Battalion Chief / Public Information Officer

mmcclintock@sbcfire.org

Firefighters Battle Four Suspicious Fires in San Bernardino

First Fire:

340 West Fourth Street, San Bernardino Time - 11/25/23, 5:40PM

San Bernardino County Fire crews were dispatched to a reported commercial fire at 340 W. 4th Street, San Bernardino. 911 callers stated fire from a vacant building.

Firefighters quickly arrived to find smoke and fire conditions showing from a room on the first floor. Crews initiated a fire attack working to suppress the fire. Firefighters simultaneously made entry, working to search for any potential victims. The fire was knocked down in 10 minutes. All searches of the building came up negative.

No injuries to firefighters or civilians were reported. Two SBCoFD Investigators responded to investigate the cause and origin of the fire.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with five Engines, two Truck Companies, two Chief Officers and two Fire Investigators.

Second Fire:

Location - 340 West Fourth Street (Same building)

Date/Time - 11/25/23, 8:55

<u>#SBCoFD</u> crews were re-dispatched to the same address for a fire on the second floor. Crews arrived to find fire showing from two rooms on the second floor.

Firefighters worked to locate and confine the fire on the second floor, working to stretch hose lines in the large building. Due to the size of the occupancy and amount of fire, a second alarm was struck.

The fire was ultimately knocked down in approximately 25 minutes. All searches of the building came up negative.

The additional fire appears to be a new start & not a rekindle of the previous fire. Fire investigators continue to investigate both fires cause and origin.

Third Fire:

Location - 398 West Fourth Street (adjacent building to original fire building) Date/Time - 9:31PM

While crews were operating on the second alarm fire, smoke was observed from an adjacent occupancy. Crews investigated to find smoke showing from a vacant multi-story occupancy with a citizen hanging from an exterior window.

Firefighters worked to locate the fire & locate victims. The fire was located on the first floor & quickly knocked down. One occupant was located and evacuated to safety. One citizen declined transport to a hospital.

A total of 12 Engines, three Truck Companies, four Chief Officers, an Air/Light & two Fire Investigators responded to the second and third fire. Colton & Rialto assisted each with an Engine Company.

Fourth Fire

Location - West 2nd Street & South "D" Street, San Bernardino Date/time - 11/25/23, 10:11PM

San Bernardino PD reported an additional fire two blocks south of the original fires. Crews quickly responded and found a dumpster on fire with an immediate exposure to a commercial building. The fire was quickly knocked down before the fire spread to the building.

The fires are under investigation and appear to be suspicious in nature.

Arson Crime Reporting

Anyone with information of an arson crime is urged to contact the Fire Investigation Unit at 909-347-1771 and ask to speak with an investigator, as any information received may help achieve a conviction in an arson case.

After business hours, on holidays and/or weekends, an individual may call our 24-hour dispatch center @ 909-356-3805.

You may also anonymously contact We-Tip at 800-47-ARSON (800-472-7766), 800-78CRIME (800-782-7463) or via the Internet by visiting the We Tip website (Wetip.com)

photos free to use, credit San Bernardino County Fire