



NEWS RELEASE

El Centro Fire Department, 1910 North Waterman Avenue, El Centro, CA

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

CONTACT:

Jason Bandaruk
Public Information Officer
jbandaruk@ecfd.org

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PHONE: (760) 337-4530

TWO-ALARM STRUCTURE FIRE IN THE CITY OF EL CENTRO

On the afternoon of May 1, 2017 shortly before 2 p.m., the El Centro Police & Fire Dispatch Center began receiving multiple 911 calls for a report of a residence on fire on the 800 block of Hamilton Ave. in the City of El Centro. The first El Centro Fire Department Engine Company arrived on scene at 13:51 p.m., three minutes after the initial 911 call, and found a residence fully involved with fire. The first Fire Captain on scene created a Second Alarm incident, requesting an additional Engine Company from Imperial County Fire Department.

El Centro Firefighters quickly performed an aggressive fire attack at 875 Hamilton Ave. An initial on scene report of a resident unaccounted for and possibly still inside was made and a thorough primary search was completed. Simultaneously, another crew ascended to the roof and cut multiple ventilation holes assisting the interior crews by releasing superheated smoke and gases. A few minutes later the resident was accounted for and found outside of the home uninjured.

Fire crews protected the residences to the West and East of the structure on fire. Firefighters continued with an interior attack, but due to safety concerns of the roof, the decision to go defensive was made. The fire was contained to the initial residence involved preventing any further extension or spread to other properties.

An additional 2 engines were requested for support; one from Holtville and the other from Brawley. In total, Fire Engine Companies from Imperial, Brawley and Holtville came to assist, along with a Ladder Truck from Imperial County.

Fire crews remained on scene battling the blaze until approximately 8 p.m. Over 20 Firefighters brought the blaze under control. No injuries to civilians or firefighters were reported. The Imperial County Chapter of the Red Cross assisted with the displaced family. El Centro Fire Department Investigators are currently working to determine the cause.

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