



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief

DATE: *March 20, 2012*
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Woman Burned Trying to Re-Enter Burning Home

Date/Time: **March 20, 2012, 11:27 a.m.**
Location: **2700 block of Macy St., Muscoy**
Incident: **Residential Structure Fire**

Summary: While outside the fire station, firefighters observed smoke coming from a residence about 200 yards from the station on Macy Street. They immediately responded and found a residence fully engulfed in flames and an elderly female sitting in a chair outside the residence being attended to by two adults.

Firefighters extinguished the fire within 9 minutes. The approximate 500 square foot block structure was left standing with its roof intact; however the interior of the residence was a complete loss. At this time, the content value is unknown. Fifteen firefighters were instrumental in keeping the fire from spreading to a residence located just feet away.

The female, in her mid 60's, sustained 2nd and 3rd degree burns when she tried to re-enter her home. San Bernardino County Fire Paramedics provided medical attention. She was then transported by American Medical Response to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center's Burn Unit for treatment.

The resident was burned when she tried to re-enter the home to extinguish the fire on her own. There was no one else inside the structure prior to the fire and no animals located inside.

San Bernardino County Fire and Sheriff Investigators determined the cause of the fire was accidental and human caused.

Never re-enter a burning building. There are many hazards caused by fire. Once you have made your way out of a burning building you may already be suffering the effects from lack of oxygen. Another hazard is the presence of toxic gases. Carbon monoxide is a main by-product of fire. Fire itself is a serious hazard in that it can cause fatal or debilitating burn injuries. Gas mains, propane tanks, and even small arms ammunition can explode, causing serious injury. The structural integrity of the building can be affected. Ceilings and walls can collapse on top of you, and other structures such as stairways and porches can collapse. For more safety tips, visit our website at www.sbcfire.org.

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