



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Mark A. Hartwig
Fire Chief*

DATE: *July 2, 2012*
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Vehicle Strikes Fire Unit Enroute to Service Call

Date/Time: *July 1, 2012, 11:25 p.m.*
Location: *Bear Valley Road/Topaz Road, City of Victorville*
Incident: *Traffic Collision Involving Fire Unit*

Summary: While enroute to a call for service, San Bernardino County firefighters were stopped at northbound Topaz Road with code 3 emergency lights and sirens on awaiting the clearance of the intersection at Bear Valley Road when the Brush Patrol unit was struck by a truck heading eastbound on Bear Valley Road. When the driver of the truck came upon another vehicle stopped at the light, the driver overcorrected, flipping the truck on its side, and then striking the driver side of the fire unit.

Firefighters were able to exit the fire unit and check the male driver for injuries. The driver stated he was not injured and refused treatment.

Both firefighters sustained minor injuries and were transported by a County Fire ambulance to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, where they were treated and released.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office is conducting the investigation.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department reminds drivers to stay alert at all times and mindful of public safety vehicles. This is the 4th such incident this year where a fire vehicle has been struck by inattentive drivers.
February 1: US 395/Main St, Hesperia, ambulance struck by vehicle while enroute to a medical call
April 22: NB I-15/Oak Hills off-ramp, Oak Hills, fatality of civilian driver while fire engine was on scene of a traffic collision
May 7: EB I-10/Riverside Ave., Rialto, fire engine struck by vehicle while on scene of a traffic collision

Seatbelts save lives. The San Bernardino County Fire Department reminds you to wear a seatbelt every time you ride in an automobile. Wearing a seatbelt is one of the best ways to minimize injury in the event of a collision.

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