



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Daniel R. Munsey
Fire Chief / Fire Warden



DATE: January 7, 2021
CONTACT: Mike McClintock, Battalion Chief/Public Information Officer
(909) 677-7412, MMcClintock@sbcfire.org

Two Rescued from Joshua Tree Structure Fire

Date/Time: January 7, 2021, 11:56 a.m.
Location: 62000 block of Crestview Drive, Joshua Tree
Incident: Structure Fire with Rescues

Summary: This morning at 11:56, San Bernardino County Fire crews were dispatched to a reported structure fire in the 62000 block of Crestview Drive in Joshua Tree. Multiple 911 callers stated there were people still inside in the home.

Fire crews arrived to find heavy smoke and fire showing from multiple sides of the single-story home. Two people had already self-rescued and advised that there were two juveniles still inside the home. Crews immediately entered the burning home and completed a search for two victims. Fire crews encountered heavy smoke and fire while searching for victims. They utilized Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) to assist with finding the trapped victims and utilized a Vent, Enter & Search (VES) method to quickly locate the victims.

Crews found two victims in a rear bedroom, removed them and brought them to awaiting Morongo Basin Ambulance crews. The two victims were transported to Hi-Desert Medical Center (HDMC) in critical condition. Air Ambulances were requested to rendezvous with ambulance crews at HDMC. After rescuing the two victims, crews completed a search of the home to ensure no additional occupants were inside, those searches came up negative.

The fire was ultimately knocked down in approximately one hour. The home sustained heavy damage and is uninhabitable. Two additional victims were transported with smoke inhalation to HDMC. No update on patient conditions were available at the time of the press release. Multiple fire investigators were on-scene working on the fire's cause and origin. San Bernardino County Sheriff Arson / Bomb is also assisting with the investigation.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with 4 Engines, a Battalion Chief and 2 Fire Investigators. Morongo Basin Ambulances responded with 3 Medic-Ambulances.

###