

CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT
INFORMATION
INCIDENT MEDIA RELEASE

DATE OF INCIDENT: 9/16/09 _____ DISPATCH TIME: 02:36

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire.

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: 3130 Soquel Drive

OCCUPANT/OWNER OF PROPERTY: Laurie Schmieding

BRIEF SCENARIO OF INCIDENT: Several calls to 911 dispatchers were made early this morning to report a wildland fire threatening a structure on Soquel Drive. Central Fire District personnel arrived to find a vacant building fully involved in fire with some fire spreading to the surrounding brush. Access to the building by emergency vehicles was made difficult by a narrow driveway. Law enforcement personnel blocked Soquel Drive so that emergency vehicles could use Soquel Drive as a staging area due to the limited access to the property. Firefighters stretched hose lines down the driveway and had the fire contained within ten minutes of arrival and extinguished quickly. The spread of fire to the surrounding vegetation was minimal and contained quickly as well. The building was the former site of a garage door repair business and has been vacant for some time.

INJURIES: N/A

FATALITIES: N/A.

TOTAL TIME TO CONTAIN: 10 minutes.

TOTAL TIME TO CONTROL: 10 minutes.

NUMBER OF CENTRAL UNITS AND PERSONNEL: Engines –3, Water tenders-1, Chief Officers – 2, Firefighters – 10, Paid Call firefighters-8, Fire Prevention Officer – 1.

AUTOMATIC AID/MATUAL AID USED: Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department-3 officers, CHP-1 officer (traffic control)

INVESTIGATION STATUS: The origin of the fire has been determined to be suspicious. Due to the extensive fire damage, a cause may not be able to be determined.

PREPARED BY: Mike DeMars – Public Information Officer