

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT SUMMARY

Emergency Public Information Center

BFC #12-180

Meeting Date: November 6, 2012

10/8/2012 TO 10/14/2012

INCIDENT DATE	INC. TIME	ADDRESS	COUNCIL	INCIDENT TYPE	F.S.	FIRE COMPANIES	TOTAL F/F'S	TOTAL R.A.S	OUTSIDE AGENCIES	F/F INJURIES	CIV. FATALITY	DOLLAR LOSS	TIME TO CONTROL
10/9/2012	9:57 PM	1625 Palo Alto St		Major Emergency Structure	20	18	123	6		1	-		1 hour, 52 min.
	INC. #	Silver Lake		Fire						0	CIV/INJURY 0	Tabulated	14 hours, 31 min.

ECHO PARK BLAZE DAMAGES BUSINESSES, INJURES FIREFIGHTER

ECHO PARK - A conflagration in a three-story office building alongside the Hollywood Freeway slowed traffic Tuesday night, as it damaged six businesses and sent one firefighter to the hospital. The fire was reported on October 9, 2012 at 9:57 PM, bringing the quick response of firefighters to 1625 Palo Alto Street in Echo Park, where they discovered heavy fire to the rear of a tri-level multi-tenant commercial building. With vegetation and the structure burning intensely on the north side of the building, teams of firefighters made forcible entry from the east and west to search the premises and protect contents while mounting an interior offense on the flames with handlines. It was a difficult battle. To assist the firefight and limit the spread of flame, more than a dozen LAFD personnel took to the building's 80' x 100' roof with chainsaws to strategically vent heat and smoke, in an attempt to stem the forward progress of the fire and make the building's interior more tenable for their colleagues below fighting flames and salvaging business records. Despite oppressive conditions on the third and second floor, a tenacious firefighting offense continued there for nearly one-half hour, until physical compromise of the structure forced a well-coordinated transition to defensive operations with the external application of heavy streams. Though as many as five firefighters were examined for potential injury, only one LAFD member required hospital care for a pair of painful dime-sized burns to his neck. In good condition, he was taken to the hospital by ambulance for first care, where he was treated and released. No other injuries were reported. It took the combined effort of 125 Los Angeles Firefighters less than two hours to fully extinguish the flames. The fire was confined to the structure of origin, with the bulk of fire damage limited to the attic, entire third floor and a portion of the second floor. Thanks to comprehensive salvage efforts by LAFD responders, a great number of business records were spared damage from flames or water, as was a good portion of the building's first floor. The varied damage from fire to the businesses, including a button manufacturer, house of worship, janitorial service, auto loan firm and two printing businesses, is still being tabulated. The cause of this late night blaze remains under active investigation.