

Emergency Public Information Center

BFC #13-094

Meeting Date: August 6, 2013

7/8/2013 TO 7/14/2013

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
7/9/2013	2:05 PM	690 S Burlington Av	1	Greater Alarm Structure Fire	11	18	127	6		0	0	\$450,000	0 hours, 48 min.
į	INC.#									F/F FATALITY	CIV/INJURY		INCIDENT DURATION
	0804	Pico / Union								0	0		8 hours, 47 min.

RAGING FIRE DAMAGES LOS ANGELES VICTORIAN HOME, DISPLACING 6

WESTLAKE - A fire raced through a 118 year-old Victorian home west of downtown Los Angeles Tuesday afternoon, trapping one man and his pets, and leading more than 125 firefighters to battle fierce flames that caused nearly a half-million dollars damage. The Los Angeles Fire Department was summoned at 2:05 PM on July 9, 2013 to 690 South Burlington Avenue. Firefighters arrived quickly to find heavy fire on the second floor of a 3,552 square-foot three-story Victorian home, with flames extending to the third floor and attic. A man and his two dogs perilously trapped by smoke and flames at a third story window were dramatically rescued by firefighters, who rapidly deployed an aerial ladder to assist the trio to safety unharmed. A total of 127 Los Angeles Firefighters under the command of Assistant Chief Emile Mack, labored under intense summer heat with unseasonal humidity for nearly 48 minutes to fully extinguish the flames. The highly compartmentalized interior of the building, combined with balloon-frame construction (typical of the era), not only allowed flames to quickly spread vertically, but required an extensive overhaul of the fire building by LAFD personnel, who spent nearly 9 hours on-site salvaging personal property and checking for embers. No injuries were reported. Six adults displaced by the greater alarm fire were provided on-site support by American Red Cross Disaster Action Team volunteers, who offered the effected residents temporary shelter and life needs assistance. The presence and functional status of smoke alarms inside the vintage structure could not be immediately determined. The home, built in 1895 and never retrofitted with optional residential fire sprinklers, sustained an estimated \$450,000 damage (\$400,000 structure and \$50,000 contents) from the flames. Though the specific cause of the blaze remains under active investigation, a team of veteran Investigators from the Los Angeles Fire Department Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section confidently stated there was "no evidence of this being a



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7/12/2013	9:28 AM	2014 Malcolm Av	5	TRENCH RESCUE	92	6	53	2		0			0 hours, 17 min.
	INC.#									F/F FATALITY	CIV/INJURY	Tabulated	INCIDENT DURATION
	0337	Century City/Rancho Park								0	0		5 hours, 37 min.

UNCONSCIOUS WORKER DIES IN WEST LA TRENCH ACCIDENT

On Friday, July 12, 2013 at 9:28 AM, 6 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 2 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 1 Heavy Rescue, 2 Urban Search and Rescue Units, 1 EMS Battalion Captain, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams, 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, LAPD, Cal OSHA, DOT, and Mayors CRT, all under the direction of Battalion Chief Al Ward responded to a Trench Rescue at 2014 Malcolm Avenue.

WEST LOS ANGELES - Los Angeles Firefighters rushed to rescue a worker found unconscious in a dirt trench on July 12, 2013. He was sadly determined dead.

At 9:28 a.m. firefighters quickly arrived at 2014 Malcolm Avenue (East of the 405 freeway and South of Santa Monica Blvd) where they found a 20' deep, 8' long, and 24" wide trench. Inside the trench, an adult male worker from a private plumbing company was laying unconscious and non-breathing. The worker was using an eclectically operated jack hammer while working on a sewer line at the time of the accident. There was no collapse of the trench and the victim was not buried.

Safely, speedily and with well-practiced efficiency, LAFD trench rescue equipment, lowering rope systems, medical gear and personnel were relayed to the site. Additional workers on scene warned firefighters they possibly heard an electrical arch. Precautions were immediately taken to ensure a safe environment. Firefighters promptly provided additional shoring of the dirt to protect both the victim and responders, then monitored the air inside the trench to ensure there were no toxic gases. A Firefighter/Paramedic was carefully lowered into the trench and performed a medical assessment of the unconscious worker, determining him beyond medical help.

Declaring the man deceased, rescuers - still together as a team, transitioned from 'Rescue Mode' to 'Recovery Mode'. A thorough investigation immediately ensued by LAFD, Cal/OSHA Investigators and LAPD.

More than five hours after they were first summoned, 53 Los Angeles Firefighters, all under the command of Battalion Chief Al Ward, removed the man from the trench in a dignified and respectful manner, placing his remains in custody of the Los Angeles County Department of Coroner. A positive identification of the deceased, as well as the precise cause, time and manner of his death will be determined by the Coroner's Office.

The Mayor's Crisis Response Team provided on-scene crisis intervention, and attended to coworkers and their comfort needs.

Dispatched Units: T92 E292 RA92 E37 E59 HR56 EM9 BC9 T5 E205 E5 UR5 RA5 UR88 BC4 E62 BC11 DC1 RA858



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7/13/2013	10:31 AM	NB 2 Fwy x NB 5 Fwy	13	Tanker Fire	1	33	214	13		0	-	•	6 hours, 6 min.
	INC.#	Lincoln Heights/Solano Canyon								F/F FATALITY	CIV/INJURY		INCIDENT DURATION
	0432									"	U		16 hours, 27 min.

TANKER FIRE IN LOS ANGELES TUNNEL IMPACTS I-5 FREEWAY

ELYSIAN VALLEY - More than 200 firefighters were joined by allied agencies Saturday morning in responding to a dramatic non-injury tanker truck fire and fuel spill at a freeway interchange in northeast Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Fire Department was summoned at 10:31 AM on July 13, 2013 by multiple 9-1-1 callers reporting a vegetation fire alongside the northbound Golden State (I-5) Freeway near Stadium Way. With a large plume of smoke visible from a distance, the LAFD air and ground response was augmented for what was believed to be a large swath of burning grass and brush between the freeway and environmentally sensitive Los Angeles River. Within moments of their arrival, LAFD crews realized the vegetation had been ignited by a big rig fuel tanker truck and trailer that were fully ablaze in a nearby tunnel that connects the northbound Glendale (SR-2) Freeway and the northbound Golden State (I-5) Freeway. Heartened by news that the truck driver had escaped the blaze unharmed and that no other persons were in direct peril, firefighters began a multifaceted air and ground attack on an inferno fueled by the truck's 8,500 gallon cargo of gasoline. With volatile fumes entering freeway and street drains, there were a handful of small explosions that displaced manhole covers in the area, leading officials to warn nearby residents to avoid stormwater drains in the neighborhood. Though some fuel entered and ignited along a half-mile section of the Los Angeles River, it was limited to a side channel contained by an earthen berm and vegetation. A joint command that included the Los Angeles Fire Department, Los Angeles Police Department, California Highway Patrol and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), worked in close coordination with more than a dozen safety, health and environmental organizations to effectively battle flames, limit collateral harm and speed recovery.

The battle against flames in the tunnel and river, with a simultaneous effort to limit fuel-laden runoff and abate hazards, continued over a large area for more than six hours, requiring a constant rotation of LAFD personnel. A strong outreach via traditional and social media was used to inform residents and travelers in the area, including tens of thousands arriving for a 4:15 PM game at Dodger Stadium - which was not endangered by the incident. With flames extinguished, Caltrans structural and maintenance engineers inspected the still warm concrete tunnel - and developed a game plan for its extensive repair, as the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and other environmental response agencies began a recovery assessment of nearby wetlands. Responders - many in protective gear, working in the summer heat well into the pre-dawn hours Sunday, were aided by Community Emergency Response Team volunteers who oversaw an LAFD approved delivery and distribution of cool beverages. Caltrans identified and coordinated temporary lane and highway closures near the effected interchange, including a busy section of the Golden State Freeway, reportedly used by as many as 300,000 vehicles per day. The California Highway Patrol continues to investigate the genesis of the tanker fire, specifically whether a collision or some type of mishap in or near the tunnel was responsible for the conflagration. The Los Angeles Fire Department reported no responder or civilian injuries. Firefighters encouraged motorists to stay informed regarding local highway closures, and to consider the 5-1-1 telephone number and information system as a timely and effective way to obtain details about traffic, transit and transportation throughout the region.



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7/13/2013	7:48 PM	1520 E 15th St	14	Greater Alarm Structure Fire	17	11	86	5		0	0	\$300,000	0 hours, 40 min.
	INC.#	Industrial Eastaida								F/F FATALITY	CIV/INJURY		INCIDENT DURATION
	1155	Industrial Eastside								0	0		3 hours, 36 min.

DOG DIES IN GREATER ALARM FIRE AT LOS ANGELES CONFETTI MANUFACTURER

CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT - A Los Angeles firm that bills itself as the "largest manufacturer and seller of confetti in the world", was the site of a greater alarm fire Saturday night, that took the life of a beloved pet dog and left the business in shambles. Summoned by a passerby at 7:48 PM on July 13, 2013, the Los Angeles Fire Department arrived quickly at 1520 East 15th Street, to discover fire showing from a 40' x 100' two-story commercial building. Forcing entry into the secured structure, firefighters discovered well-entrenched flames on the second floor of the business which housed manufacturing and dense storage of plastic confetti. Nearly untenable conditions held LAFD crews at a mezzanine - albeit briefly, as teams of firefighters atop the building used chainsaws to open the roof and release thick smoke and oppressive heat, allowing the offensive effort to continue. Eight-six firefighters under the command of Battalion Chief Greg Gibson held flames within the heavily damaged building and extinguished the fire in just 40 minutes. The remains of a pet dog were later discovered in debris within the non-fire sprinklered structure. No human injuries were reported. Fire loss to Z-Barten Productions, operators of Confetti.com, is estimated to be at least \$300,000 (\$200,000 structure & \$100,000 contents). The cause of the blaze remains under active investigation.