



Humboldt Bay Fire News Release

533 C St.
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-4000

December 10, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject : Two Fires within 20 minutes on the morning on December 10

Contact : Amy Conlin, Community Risk Reduction Specialist, 707-441-4000

On the morning of December 10, 2020 around 8:21 a.m., Humboldt Bay Fire responded to the first of what would become two structure fires within 20 minutes.

The first pulled crews to the 6600 block of Third Street in Fields Landing where a fully-engulfed R.V. posed a threat to a nearby utility pole and multiple residential homes. Bystanders watched as flames shot up from the vehicle and a large plume of grey smoke filled the air. Crews surrounded the vehicle and knocked down the fire, calling in aid from PG&E to assist with power lines down across the roadway. Deputies from the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office and California Highway Patrol also responded to assist with crowd control and take witness reports.

While on scene at about 8:40 a.m., HBF was dispatched to a second structure fire devouring a room in an apartment complex on the 4200 block of Broadway. As resources split off from the first fire, a secondary command officer arrived to find a working fire bursting out of a room in an attached apartment complex. Crews quickly confirmed all persons were out of the building and initiated fire attack. As smoke and superheated gases filled the apartment, crews took to the roof to create venting holes allowing for heat, gas, and smoke to escape from the apartment. This improved visibility and working conditions for crews inside who were extinguishing the fire and preventing further spread to the attached units and a nearby shed belonging to a commercial business next-door.

Although no firefighters were harmed in either incident, we are aware that one resident and one cat suffered from moderate injuries associated with the fire on Broadway. The resident suffered from unspecified burns and was transported to the hospital by friends prior to the arrival of public safety personnel. Humboldt Bay Fire assisted with the injured cat and transferred care of the animal to Animal Control. HBF was assisted on scene by Fire Support, PG&E, Eureka Police Department, City Ambulance, City of Eureka Public Works, and Animal Control.

The cause and origin as well as initial damage assessment on both fires are still unknown at this time.

HBF would also like to thank Samoa Peninsula Fire District and Arcata Fire for providing call coverage while HBF resources were working on these incidents. Multiple multi-unit calls strains resources, making the need for mutual aid agreement with neighboring agencies ever more important. Thirty-five percent of the time HBF is dispatched to an emergency, a second unrelated emergency call is also dispatched. Our mutual aid agreements ensure sufficient resources can be provided to all emergency scenes.

#####