

CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT  
INFORMATION  
INCIDENT MEDIA RELEASE

DATE OF INCIDENT: 5/28/09 \_\_\_\_\_ DISPATCH TIME: 04:46

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Structure fire.

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: 2000 Wharf Road

OCCUPANT/OWNER OF PROPERTY: City of Capitola

BRIEF SCENARIO OF INCIDENT: Early this morning, a Capitola resident called 911 and reported seeing flames at the Rispin Mansion on Wharf Road. A Capitola Police Officer responded to the scene and confirmed that the building was fully involved in fire. Central Fire District firefighters arrived on scene shortly thereafter to find flames and smoke showing from the windows and doorways of the mansion. Due to the condition of the unoccupied building, a defensive attack was used to fight the fire. Firefighters were able to gain access to the southern and eastern exposures of the building via an access road. Large diameter master streams were used to direct firefighting water through the windows and doorways without entering the building. From the western exposure, Central Fire District's aerial ladder truck was used to direct firefighting water from above to the roof. Part of the roof had collapsed during the fire creating access for fire streams. With an effective defensive attack by firefighters, the fire was contained to the building without spreading to the surrounding trees and bushes. A second alarm assignment included support from Santa Cruz City Fire, Aptos La Selva and Scotts Valley Fire Districts.

INJURIES: N/A

FATALITIES: N/A.

TOTAL TIME TO CONTAIN: 10 minutes. Fire was contained to the building.

TOTAL TIME TO CONTROL: 35 minutes.

NUMBER OF CENTRAL UNITS AND PERSONNEL: Engines –3, Trucks – 1, Chief Officers – 2, Firefighters – 13, Fire Prevention Officer – 1, Paid-call Firefighters – 10.

AUTOMATIC AID/MATUAL AID USED: Santa Cruz City Fire – 1 engine and 1 truck, Aptos La Selva Fire District – 1 engine, Scotts Valley Fire District – 1 engine, Capitola PD – 3 patrol officers, AMR – I field supervisor.

INVESTIGATION STATUS: The point of origin and cause of the fire are under investigation. An arson dog and cadaver dog have been requested by the fire investigator to rule out arson or the chance that anyone was present in the building during the fire.

PREPARED BY: Mike DeMars – Public Information Officer