San Bernardino City Fire Department
PRESS RELEASE

UPDATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2014 INCIDENT

Contact: Paul Drasil
Chief
909-384-5286

Date: November 24, 2014

Location: 267 West 14th Street

Time of the Dispatch: 03:05 A.M. First Unit on the scene: 03:13 A.M.

All Units on Scene: 03:16 A.M. Fire contained: 3:28 A.M.

Number of Units: 13 (10 Engines, 2 Trucks, 2 Battalion Chiefs)

Number of Firefighters: 35 Injuries: 1 Fatalities: 2

San Bernardino, CA. Per our November 20, 2014, Press Conference at 2:00 PM, the following is an update on the 14th Street Incident.

Investigation into the fire’s origin and cause are ongoing by the San Bernardino City Fire and Police Departments. Attention continues on the kitchen area of the home and the entrance/exits to the apartment unit. The City is fully cooperating with the separate investigation by County of San Bernardino Child Protective Services Division. All questions concerning mother of the deceased children and newborn should be directed to County Child Protective Services.

Several reports by the San Bernardino City Professional Firefighters Association have indicated a delay in response time. An initial internal review has concluded that all response times were within guidelines and consistent with historical responses. Aspersions cast by the Union are unsupported by the detailed Call-for-Service-Report.

“The actions of the San Bernardino City Professional Firefighters Association to politicize the deaths of children for their own advantage are reprehensible. An independent full-review of the incident will occur to address any further public concerns,” stated Mayor R. Carey Davis.

As stated last Thursday, the first priority of the City’s Departments is the safety of our residents. In looking at the response times of our units, they were consistent with the Department’s performance both prior to and post any budget reductions. The times and the units that responded to this call were appropriate and all Department personnel did an outstanding job. Sadly, a tragic outcome may have been prevented by adequate living standards, smoke alarms, and clear egress.
The first engine was on-scene within 7 minutes 42 seconds from time of dispatch and all first alarm units reported on-scene within 10 minutes 15 seconds from time of dispatch. The first three companies arrived on-scene within six seconds of one-another.

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