



Modesto Regional Fire Authority

"We Care"

3705 Oakdale Road
Modesto, CA 95357
Phone: 209-552-3600
Fax: 209-552-2512

Office of the Fire Chief
Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 1, 2014
Author: Battalion Chief Alan Ernst
Phone: 209-409-2655
Email: aernst@modestorfa.org

Early Morning Fires Keep Firefighters Busy in Modesto

The Modesto Regional Fire Authority was busy this morning battling two structure fires.

The first fire occurred early this morning at 06:51 am. Crews responded to an apartment fire at 816 Sutter Ave in West Modesto, just a few blocks from fire station 2. The response brought 4 engines, 1 truck, and 2 chief officers for a total of 18 personnel. The first unit arrived within two minutes of the dispatch and found heavy fire conditions on the first floor of a two story apartment building. Firefighters performed an aggressive interior fire attack and were able to contain the fire to the first floor. Three apartments were immediately threatened but the quick actions by firefighters held the fire to one apartment. Three adults and 1 child were displaced and Red Cross was called to assist. Damage is estimated at \$50,000 and no injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

The second fire occurred at 09:33 am at the Sherwin-Williams Paint store located at 3301 McHenry Ave. When employees arrived to open the store, they were met with heavy smoke conditions inside. The employees called 911 and Modesto Regional Fire Authority sent 4 engines, 2 trucks, and 2 chief officers to the scene. Upon arrival the first unit reported smoke visible inside the structure and initiated an aggressive fire attack. A small fire was located in the back storage area and the fire was quickly contained. This fire had a lot of potential with hundreds of gallons of flammable paint stored next to the fire. Thanks to the quick actions of the employees and firefighters, the damage was minimal. The cause of the fire is still under investigation and no injuries were reported.