

Large Vehicle Fire at a Gas Station

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MEDIA RELEASE

Incident Number: 16-4091
Information Contact: Douglas Miser, Battalion Chief
Incident Type: Large Vehicle Fire at a Gas Station
Date/Time of Incident: 1-13-16 at 7:19pm
Incident Location: 2000 Block Harbor Boulevard
Cause: Fire in the engine compartment
Injuries: None
Number of Personnel: 8 Fire
Fire Equipment: 1 Engine Company, 1 Truck Company, 1 Battalion Chief
Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire, Ventura Police Department
Damage Estimate: Unknown
Fire Protection Systems Present: None

A large vehicle that was outfitted with an articulating elevated work platform, commonly known as a 'cherry picker', was being transported south to Los Angeles Tuesday evening, when it stopped in Ventura to refuel at a gas station just adjacent to the Seaward off-ramp. The driver entered the mini market to make a purchase, and looked out to see the engine compartment ablaze. The vehicle was parked next to a gas pump but the fire had grown to a point where it would have been unsafe to move it.

Ventura City Fire arrived in less than 4 minutes, activated the main gas shut off for the station, and attacked the fire. Ventura City Police controlled traffic, set a safe working perimeter for fire units, and temporarily shut down Harbor Blvd until it was confirmed the fire would be confined to just the vehicle. The fire was knocked down within 7 minutes, and was contained to the engine compartment. The flames and smoke production of the fire resulted in no damage to the gas station or the pump area. Harbor Blvd was reopened shortly thereafter. An investigation to the cause of the fire is in progress.

The gas station reopened within 45 minutes under normal operations.



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