

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Date Of Release: December 23, 2021
Fire Incident Number: 21-0109562
Incident Commander: Battalion Chief Matt Brock
Incident Type: Residential structure fire
Date/Time of Incident: 12/22/2021, 11:23 pm
Incident Location: 900 blk of Seahorse Cir. Ventura, CA 93003
Cause/Origin: Accidental
Injuries Reported: None
Units Committed On-Scene: 10
Total Fire Personnel On-Scene: 26
Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire, Oxnard Fire, Ventura County Fire, AMR

Narrative: Fire units were dispatched to a reported residential structure fire. Units arrived to find a growing fire inside an occupied residence. Fire crews made an aggressive attack on the fire and thankfully prevented spread to other nearby buildings. No injuries were reported and the three adult occupants were supported for sheltering needs by the Red Cross. The fire originated in a fireplace chimney surround from radiated heat and cause was determined to be accidental. Residents are reminded to always have a working smoke detector in any living space and to never leave any open flame such as a fire or candle unattended.

The Ventura City Fire Department wishes all community residents and visitors a safe and happy holiday season.

The Ventura City Fire Department is committed to working with the City's Safe & Clean Program and regional partners to address any ongoing life-safety and property threats posed by homeless encampments in Ventura. Fires can occur in the river bottom because of unsheltered individuals living in the area who use fire for warmth and cooking. These fires can grow quickly and produce a lot of smoke because of strong winds, dry brush, fuel, and tall grasses.

The City's Safe and Clean program continues to work on long-term housing solutions and provides preventative resources for our most vulnerable populations. Safe & Clean works proactively with the Ventura Police Patrol Task Force, the Ventura City Fire Department, various social service providers, and community partners to clean up brush and debris in the riverbeds. City staff also

visits these areas weekly to share education, health, and social services to unsheltered individuals, who legally, cannot be relocated from the river bottom to a safer location.

Due to HIPAA we are prevented from disclosing an individual's protected health information (PHI). We may not release information regarding patient's names, DOB, address, SS# or medical status. All photos are free from copyright and may reproduced as necessary.