

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Date Of Release: July 17, 2022
Fire Incident Number: 22-0063209
Incident Commander: Battalion Chief Matt Brock
Incident Type: Vehicle fire
Date/Time of Incident: 07/17/2022, 11:50am
Incident Location: Comstock Dr and Ventura Ave. Ventura, CA 93003
Cause/Origin: Accidental
Injuries Reported: 1
Units Committed On-Scene: 11
Total Fire Personnel On-Scene: 27
Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire, Ventura County Fire, AMR

Narrative: Fire units were dispatched to a reported structure fire. Units arrived to find a growing fire involving a boat, a passenger van and a storage container in a storage yard. Fire crews made an aggressive attack on the fire and thankfully prevented spread to other nearby buildings. The fire originated in a boat that was under repair and the cause was determined to be accidental. An adult male was seriously injured related to the fire and was treated by paramedics at the scene and transported to Ventura County Medical Center by AMR for further evaluation and treatment.

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.

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