



PRESS RELEASE

City of Visalia Fire Department

Released: February 7, 2014

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Chemical Spill Injures Man in Visalia

On Friday February 7, 2014 the Visalia Fire Department responded to a medical assist at 8030 W Doe for a patient who was overcome by fumes from a chemical spill. Upon arrival, fire fighters and ambulance personnel treated a patient who was overcome by fumes when a 330 gallon container of 12% sodium hypochlorite was tipped over as it was being off loaded from a semi-truck. The victim was operating the forklift at the time of the accident. Approximately 120 gallons of the product was spilled into a loading dock. The Visalia Hazardous Materials Response Unit responded to the incident and worked with representatives from Tulare County Environmental Health to mitigate the chemical release. The patient was treated and released from Kaweah Delta Medical Center. The chemical, which is similar to household bleach, entered a storm drain and was contained in a ponding basin on the property with no threat to the environment. The remainder of the chemical was cleaned up by a private clean-up company.

Approved By: Charlie Norman, Battalion Chief

Release To: Media City Admin City Wide