



# PRESS RELEASE

City of Visalia Fire Department

Released: January 7, 2014

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## Apartment Fire Results in Death of Female Occupant

Early Tuesday morning, January 7, 2014 at 12:43 a.m. the Visalia Fire Department was dispatched to a reported structure fire located at 1538 W. Walnut Avenue. Upon arrival, the first fire unit observed heavy fire showing from Unit #1 which was part of a single story multi-family apartment complex. Fire crews made a quick fire attack and knocked the fire down in the fire unit and then checked the adjoining apartment for any extension. The fire was contained to the one unit which sustained heavy fire and smoke damage. Unit #2 next door sustained minor fire and smoke damage. There were three other apartment units that were in the same row attached to the fire unit which were also checked for any fire extension and none was found.

One female occupant perished as a result of the fire. The name and age of the fire victim have not been released due to the notification of the family.

The fire was contained with 20 minutes and then crews went into the overhaul stage to make sure the contents and building were completely extinguished. Four fire engines, one ladder truck, three Battalion Chiefs, and the Fire Chief responded for a total of 19 personnel. There was approximately \$25,000 lost in contents and approximately \$75,000 to the property as a result of the fire.

The fire is currently under investigation at the time of this press release.

## Update Press Release

The fire victim has been identified as: Kathleen Olson 80 Years Old

The cause of the fire is presently under investigation.

Approved By: Charlie Norman, Battalion Chief

Release To:  Media  City Admin  City Wide