



PRESS RELEASE

City of Visalia Fire Department

"Established and Serving with Pride since 1869"

Released: April, 25 2022

Contact: Nick Branch, Acting Battalion Chief
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Fire Damages South Visalia Home

On Monday, April 25, 2022, at 0125hrs, the Visalia Fire Department was dispatched to a residential structure fire in the 2800 block of West Harter. Upon the arrival of the first fire unit, they located a working structure fire with flames threatening a neighboring structure. Fires crews made an interior fire attack on the main fire and protected the exposure. Heavy fire conditions were encountered in a back bedroom and substantial smoke conditions were observed throughout the structure. One additional fire unit was requested bringing additional fire personnel to the scene. A total of 4 Engines, 1 Ladder Truck, and 1 Acting Battalion Chief responded and brought 18 fire personnel to the scene to control the fire. The fire was contained in approximately 30 minutes. There were no injuries, and the cause of the fire was determined to be an unattended candle in the involved bedroom. The fire caused an estimated \$100,000 in property damage to the structure valued at \$260,000.

Visalia Fire Department would like to remind citizens of the importance of proper supervision around candles and open flames. Lit candles should remain at least 12 inches from anything combustible and should never be left unattended for any amount of time. Don't use candles in bedrooms, bathrooms, and sleeping areas and remember to blow them out before leaving the room.

Approved By: Nick Branch, Acting Battalion Chief

Release To: Media City Admin City Wide