

Alameda County Fire Department NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Firefighters Prevent Natural Gas Disaster at San Leandro Apartment Building 30 Residents Temporarily Evacuated

San Leandro--On Monday, June 20, 2011, at 8:18 AM, 5 companies of Alameda County Firefighters and one Battalion Chief responded to a report of a gas leak and vehicle into a building at the Parkside Commons Apartment Complex at 900 143rd Avenue. First arriving units from Station #12 responded within two minutes to find a two-story apartment building with a red, four-door Mitsubishi Montero Sport lodged into the corner of the building where a utility closet was located.

After quickly confirming that a gas line was sheared as a result of the vehicle crashing into the building causing a high pressure natural gas leak, firefighters worked quickly to evacuate approximately 30 residents from adjacent buildings as a safety precaution. Of the 27 buildings in the Parkside Commons Apartment Complex, a total of 7 buildings were evacuated by firefighters.

Throughout the incident, San Leandro Police Officers worked collaboratively with Alameda County Firefighters to provide site access and control, ensuring the temporarily evacuated residents did not return to their units while first responders and PG&E representatives worked to locate and cap the source of the gas leak.

Residents were allowed to return to their units at 10:03AM, after PG&E representatives completely plugged the source of the natural gas leak. Approximately 15 minutes after shutting off the gas leak, firefighters and police officers were made available for other emergency responses and the incident was turned over to PG&E.

The driver and sole occupant of the Mitsubishi Montero did not sustain any injuries after accidentally crashing her SUV into the apartment building. According to the driver, after pulling into her parking spot she accidentally hit the gas pedal, not the brakes, resulting in her vehicle hitting the apartment building.

There were no injuries to firefighters, police officers or other community members reported during this incident.

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