

# Alameda County Fire Department **NEWS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **2-Alarm Early Morning Blaze Displaces Family of Three in Newark**

Newark—On Saturday, August 14, 2010 at 3:25 AM, Alameda County firefighters responded to a residential structure fire at 6625 Mirabeau Drive. The first arriving firefighters discovered a fully involved garage with smoke and flames pouring out uncontrollably from the garage door. While making quick access to the residence and aggressively attacking the fire, firefighters worked strategically to contain the fire to the residence of origin and protect the adjacent structures.

To ensure the safety of the residents in the adjacent homes, the Newark Police Department collaborated with ACFD personnel to quickly evacuate the occupants at 6609 and 6641 Mirabeau Drive. Due to the decisive and immediate work of firefighters, only one adjacent residence (6641 Mirabeau Drive) sustained minor fire damage.

Prior to the arrival of firefighters, the three occupants of the home, two adults and a young child, were able to safely evacuate amidst heavy smoke, without injury.

The fire destroyed the garage and significantly damaged the kitchen. The remainder of the residence sustained considerable smoke and heat damage. The Red Cross was contacted to help the displaced family of three.

Fire investigators determined the area of origin of the fire as the garage and the cause is undetermined. The monetary loss from the fire is estimated at \$300,000 (\$200,000 structure and \$100,000 contents).

During the investigation, firefighters discovered a functional smoke alarm in the hallway of the home without a battery installed. According to the U.S Fire Administration, each year in the United States about 3,000 people die in home fires. The ACFD encourages community members to inspect and maintain their smoke alarms on a regular basis. While the message is simple, it just may save the life of someone you love.

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