



**CITY OF EUREKA**

EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

604 C Street

Eureka, California 95501-0341

(707) 441-4060

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

604 C Street

Eureka, CA 95501

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2/17/13

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Subject: Working Firebomb Device Discovered in Yard**

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**Prepared by:** Sergeant Watson

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On 2/17/13, at about 8:15 AM, officers with the Eureka Police Department (EPD) were dispatched to the report of a suspicious bag in the front yard of a residence located near the intersection of Hodgson and 'F' Streets. A resident reported they'd just found a duffel bag with wires and a battery visible protruding from it. The bag was partially hidden by some shrubbery in their yard.

Responding officers quickly ascertained the bag could hold an explosive device of some kind. As a precautionary measure, officers blocked off the surrounding streets, set-up a wide perimeter around the suspected device, and notified and evacuated residents in the vicinity. Assistance from the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office's Bomb Squad was requested. Eureka Volunteer Patrol (EVP) personnel also responded to the scene to assist with traffic control.

After examining the bag, Sheriff's bomb technicians determined it contained an actual working "firebomb" device. At approximately 1055 hours, bomb technicians rendered the device safe, in place, under controlled conditions. This resulted in a small explosion and fire which was quickly extinguished. There was some minor damage to the yard but no other property was damaged and there were no injuries. Had the device detonated as designed and intended, it could have resulted in great bodily injury to anyone in close proximity to it.



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Once the device was neutralized, EPD evidence technicians began processing the scene and collecting evidence. The investigation is continuing as to the intended target, motive, and suspect behind the placement of the firebomb. There are no further details for public release at this time.

EPD would also like to mention the residents were smart not to touch or move the bag. Anyone discovering a suspected explosive device is cautioned to stay away from it, not to manipulate or move it in any fashion, and to call their local law enforcement agency for further assessment.

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