



## Humboldt Bay Fire News Release

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### Smoke Alarms Save Lives.

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Subject :** Water Rescue near 1 Marina Way, Eureka 15-673

**Contact :** Battalion Chief Bill Reynolds (707) 441-4013

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At approximately 1315 hours today, Humboldt Bay Fire (HBF) was dispatched to a water rescue in the bay near the Wharfinger Building at 1 Marina Way. HBF responded with three engines (with three water rescue swimmers spread amongst them), 1 ladder truck (with one water rescue swimmer), and two Chief Officers. Assistance from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) was also immediately requested.

The first arriving Chief Officer arrived on scene at the Wharfinger Building and reported two subjects in the water clinging to a capsized boat in the bay west of the Wharfinger building. Water rescue personnel arrived on scene and one swimmer was put into the water immediately to swim to and assist the subjects in the water while another swimmer remained on shore as back up. Additionally, the remainder of the on duty swimmers positioned themselves in conjunction with the incoming tide to help out should the victims and rescue swimmer need further assistance.

The fire department rescue swimmer reached the victims and assisted them to shore on the southern most tip of Indian Island. The USCG arrived on scene with their 47 foot lifeboat shortly thereafter and picked up both victims and the HBF swimmer and transported them to the foot of F St. City Ambulance evaluated the victims and both refused medical treatment as they were uninjured.

This incident highlights the excellent teamwork between HBF and USCG in quickly responding to a very dangerous situation (given the weather conditions today) and mitigating what potentially could have been a tragic event. #####