Install. Inspect. Protect.

Smoke Alarms Save Lives.

December 2, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject : Structure Fire, 1296 Coast Guard Way

Contact : Chris Jelinek, Battalion Chief, Humboldt Bay Fire

On December 2nd at approximately 5:00 AM Humboldt Bay Engine 8114 was dispatched to investigate a report of a possible controlled burn or bonfire in the vicinity of Coast Guard Way in Eureka. While investigating the crew found the actual fire as being inside unoccupied 40' x 50' storage building. The building was approximately 25% involved with fire, including the attic space.

A full first alarm response was initiated, bringing four engines and 14 personnel to the scene. Due to the volume of fire involvement the second arriving captain requested a second alarm which added an additional engine company from Arcata Fire Protection District and the Humboldt Bay Fire ladder truck, bringing a total of 24 personnel to the scene. Shortly thereafter the incident commander requested a 3rd alarm to provide station coverage, which was provided by both Loleta and Fortuna Volunteer Fire Departments, and by off-duty Humboldt Bay Fire personnel.

Fire suppression efforts were hampered due to the building's roof assembly that had been renovated by adding a peaked roof over the building's original flat roof. The fire had penetrated into this large concealed space. Due to the difficulty in accessing this space from the building's interior and an increased risk for structural collapse, tactics were changed to a defensive strategy and the fire was attacked from the outside.

The fire was brought under control in approximately 1 hour. One firefighter received a minor injury during fire suppression.   The cause is under investigation.