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### **ONE INJURED IN MORNING STRUCTURE FIRE**

(Arcata, CA) – March 24, 2017 – A father and son narrowly escaped a quickly moving structure fire on the 2200 block of Baldwin Street in Arcata at approximately 7:45 this morning. The resident awoke to find fire in a closet rapidly advancing into his bedroom. After an unsuccessful attempt to stop the fire, he and his son escaped into the backyard where they were trapped by the growing fire. One person was treated and released from Mad River Community Hospital with moderate injuries.

E8215 from the Arcata station initiated an aggressive fire attack in an effort to access to the trapped residents. Fortunately, the residents were able to escape by climbing over the back fence into a neighbor's yard where the Arcata Police Department and Arcata-Mad River Ambulance evaluated them for injuries. The Fire was controlled in 15 minutes but units remained on scene 3 hours to complete overhaul and investigation duties. Four engines, two chiefs, two volunteer firefighters, two volunteer logistics unit members responded to the fire scene. "We were fortunate this fire happened near shift change effectively doubling the number of firefighters available. This greatly contributed the quickness and efficiency of operations." Stated Fire Captain Jon Busher.

Arcata Police and SCOP units rerouted traffic as operations were initially hampered by the morning commute to Arcata Elementary school just one block away. Units from Humboldt Bay Fire and Blue Lake Fire covered Arcata stations for the duration of the incident.

Arcata Firefighters were able to issue the family a "SAVE" card to help with their immediate expenses. SAVE is a program of the California Fire Foundation that provides immediate, short-term relief to victims of fire or other natural disaster. The California Fire Foundation is a non-profit organization aiding fallen firefighter families, firefighters and the communities they serve.

The Fire cause is currently under investigation and the Arcata Fire District reminds every one of the importance of having working smoke alarms in their home.

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