

Everyday Heroes *in* Action

Factory Fire in N. Hollywood

*Photo by Juan Guerra;
Story courtesy LAFD*

On 10:43 p.m. June 1, 23 companies of Los Angeles Firefighters; nine LAFD Rescue Ambulances; three Arson Units; one Urban Search and Rescue Unit; one Rehab Unit; one Hazardous Materials Team; four EMS Battalion Captains; seven Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams; one Division Chief Officer Command Team; one dozer; two tractors; two loaders; and a Heavy Equipment Unit, under the direction of Dep. Chief Mark Stormes, responded to a major emergency structure fire at 6914 N. Beck Ave. in North Hollywood.

Firefighters arrived quickly to find heavy smoke and fire showing through the roof from an unoccupied carpet and hardwood manufacturing commercial building. Swiftly extending handlines, firefighters battled fiercely with the blaze. Due to the structural collapse of the roof and the building's walls, fire crews were forced to go into a defensive mode, attacking the fire with heavy streams of water from the roofs of adjacent structures as well as from the street.

Firefighters worked diligently to prevent the spread of the fire to any of the surrounding structures in this commercial area of North Hollywood. The fire was contained to only the one building. Early on in the firefight, one Fire Captain was treated and taken to medical care for fatigue. There were no other injuries reported. Companies continued firefighting efforts throughout the early morning hours, with more than 170 fire personnel continuing the attack with water appliances on the ground as well as several ladder pipe operations.

Thanks to the exhausting efforts of all fire teams the blaze was finally knocked down after a seven-hour stand. Extensive overhauling of the site was initiated, with several companies remaining on scene to watch for hot spots. The cause of this fire has yet to be determined at press time, and the monetary loss is still being tabulated.



