



Juan Guerra, Photographer

Panorama City

Photo by Juan Guerra; Information courtesy LAFD

It took the combined effort of 162 LA Firefighters more than two hours to fully control flames early Aug. 21, when fire swept through a large building shared by a metal finishing firm and sign manufacturing business in Panorama City. Within minutes, fire was through the roof of the 61 year-old building – containing hazardous chemicals, causing firefighters to assume a defensive posture to prevent flames from spreading to nearby businesses, while focusing their concern on limiting environmental harm. LAFD Hazardous Materials experts performed multiple assessments of the water runoff and ambient air quality during the battle to control flames. Though one acidic reading was noted in pooled water on the premises, no off-site air or water hazards were specifically identified. No injuries were reported at the scene of the fire. The cause of the early morning blaze remains under active investigation.