ATTACHMENT B

Narrative:

HUU-11-0003425

On 07/10/2011 at 14:20:30 Arcata Fire units were dispatched To 2225 Walker Avenue, Arcata, CA 95519. The location is a 1 family dwelling. The incident was determined to be an outside rubbish, trash and waste fire that had extended to a residence, chicken coop, and trees. Chief 8200 and responding units found no vehicle access to this residence. Neighbors reported that they had observed the owner leave about an hour prior to discovering the fire and that she lived alone. Engines 8211, E8216 and Truck 8283 where redirected to Kirkwood Ct. to make access through a wood fence by Chief 8200. Engine 8215 made access from Sun Road across the gulch.

14:27:15 arrived on scene found powerlines down. The residence was fully involved with flames through the roof and partially collapsed. The chicken coop, containing 40 birds, had collapsed prior to arrival. A large debris pile was well involved in fire and flames were extending to a larger brush pile and trees surrounding the residence. Two gates were secured at the dead end of Walker Avenue and Fire Department vehicle access was determined to be unlikely. Responding units were redirected.

P.G.&E. electric was requested to secure the downed power lines and Humboldt County Sheriff secured the area. Air Quality was notified.

Owner, Glenda Rasella, returned home when notified of the fire and immediately confronted news photographers for trespassing while in the roadway and attempted to have the Sheriff remove the Fire Chief. Rasella was directed to stay in her vehicle until her presence was requested.

Engine 8211 made initial attack from a deck pipe and extended hand lines. Engine 8216 laid a supply line from the hydrant at Thiel and Kirkwood. Truck 8283 set up the aerial platform on Kirkwood and controlled the fires from the platform. Engine 8215 laid a supply line from the hydrant on Sun Road and extended lines through the woods to access the rear of the fire.

Extinguishment and overhaul required extensive labor to dig through the debris of the residence which was characterized as a 'hoarder house' and overloaded with combustibles. The multiple debris and brush piles on the property also required extensive overhaul.

a joint fire investigation by Arcata Fire and Air Quality determined that the point of origin was the burn barrel which allowed fire to escape to the brush and to the adjacent structures.

A telephone interview with owner Rasella on 7/11 confirmed that she started burning in the barrel and tipped the barrel to ignite the brush pile. She burned from 0600 until 1200, using water to extinguish the flames. A message was found on the HQ telephone left by Rasella on 7/10 stating that she would be burning on Walker Avenue. It was determined that she departed at 1311, from her cell phone log, to shop at Mad River Gardens and eat at the Oriental Buffet. She stated that she received a call while eating from her sister in Redding informing her that the neighbors had called to report that her house was burning and requested that she return home.

There was no loss determined as the residence had been abandoned and was in poor repair, being utilized only for storage. Rasella stated that she only used the bathroom in the residence. Rasella lives in a travel trailer on the property. P.G.&E. secured the electricity and there was no bathroom on the property. This information was relayed to

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Humboldt County Code Enforcement.

Blue Lake and Fieldbrook units covered the Arcata stations during the incident.

Engine 8211 returned to check the property for rekindle later in the evening and repaired the wooden fence on 7/11.

The following involvements were noted:

Name/Business Name

Involvement Type

Rasella, Glenda

Occupant/Owner

The following actions were performed on scene:

Extinguishment by fire service personnel

Information, investigation & enforcement, Oth

Units responding were:

Unit 8200 responded.

Unit 8211 responded.

Unit 8215 responded.

Unit 8216 responded.

Unit 8283 responded.

Unit OV responded.

Unit SB responded.

17:43:00 all units back in service.

07/15/2011 02:43:07 PM jcummings