



# PRESS RELEASE

City of Visalia Fire Department

Released: November 4, 2016

Contact: Battalion Chief Darrin Hughes  
(559) 713-4645

## Suspicious Fire Destroys Vacant North Visalia House

At 3:22 a.m. on Friday, November 4, 2016 the Visalia Fire Department was dispatched to a residential structure fire at NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Court Street. Upon arrival the first fire unit observed a large amount of fire on the exterior of a vacant boarded up single story house that was actually located at 109 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. The first fire unit extinguished the exterior fire, but after gaining access through a cyclone fence and boarded up exterior doors and windows the fire had spread through the attic and involved the entire roof. All crews that were on scene attacked the fire from the outside and the roof collapsed into the house.

Fourteen fire personnel from three engines, one truck, one Battalion Chief, and one Fire Marshal responded to this fire. The cause of the fire was undetermined, but the area of origin was the outside of the house near the back of it. There were no utilities connected to the house that has been vacant for multiple years. The estimated loss to the property and contents was \$20,000.

Approved By: Battalion Chief Darrin Hughes

Release To:  Media  City Admin  City Wide