FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Author: Division Chief Sean Slamon
Phone: 209-552-3723
Email: sslamon@modestorfa.org

At 03:35 this morning, the Modesto Regional Fire Authority with assistance from Ceres Fire responded to a structure fire at 1801 E. Hatch Rd in South Modesto. The first engine arrived and observed a single story residential structure well involved with fire and an imminent threat to an adjacent structure. 21 firefighters operating under the command of Battalion Chief Alan Ernst extinguished the fire in 20 minutes. No one was home at the time of the fire; the cause was reported to be accidental. No injuries were reported and damage is estimated at $50,000.

Modesto Regional Firefighters were kept busy throughout the night responding to various fires. The majority of fires involved discarded Christmas trees. The Modesto Regional Fire Authority would like to remind drivers to pull to the right and stop when they hear sirens.