FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Airport Neighborhood Home Shot at, Set on Fire

Modesto, CA – On January 14, at 10:31 p.m. units from the Modesto Regional Fire Authority and the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District responded to a home on fire on Empire Avenue in the Airport District of Modesto.

Multiple reports were received stating the shots were fired at the house and that it was on fire. The Modesto Police Department responded to secure the area. The first arriving fire engines reported a fire inside the front of the house. Fire companies battled the fire and performed searches for any occupants that might be trapped inside. Within 15 minutes of our arrival the fire was knocked down and searches confirmed that none of the occupants were inside the burning building.

The cause of the fire has been determined to be arson. Nine individuals, made up of 6 adults and three children resided on the property and were left homeless due to the fire. The American Red Cross was requested, and responded to the scene to provide disaster assistance to the displaced. A total of 24 firefighters responded to the scene with 6 engines and 1 truck. The initial fire loss is estimated at $75,000 structural loss along with $5,000 in content loss.
The Modesto Regional Fire Authority would like to remind everyone of the importance of having working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in their homes. It’s the law!

-END-
Regards,

**Hugo P. Patino, Jr.**

Battalion Chief

Modesto Regional Fire Authority