



## NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Explosion in Dana Point May Have Been Drug-Related**

**DANA POINT, CA** - (November 6, 2013) – On Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at approximately 12 p.m., Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) firefighters and Orange County Sheriff's deputies responded to reports of a structure fire in the 26000 block of Vista Del Mar in the city of Dana Point. The initial information indicated that the fire was as a result of several large explosions coming from the garage of a residence. Approximately 60 firefighters arrived and extinguished the fire. Firefighters treated an adult male victim with serious burns to his face, chest, arms and legs and transported him to a local hospital.

Immediately following the fire being extinguished, a joint investigation ensued to determine the cause of the fire as well as any criminal culpability. The Sheriff's Department Hazardous Devices Section (HDS) and OCFA fire investigators entered the garage, located a deceased dog, and determined there were no additional victims or the potential for additional explosions.

Based on the preliminary investigation and evidence located at the scene, the Orange County Proactive Methamphetamine Laboratory Investigative Task Force (PROACT) responded and led the investigation. Evidence located at the scene, including marijuana and butane, indicates that the garage where the explosion and fire occurred was being utilized as a THC extraction lab. The investigation is ongoing and no arrests have been made.

The cause of the explosion and fire is still under investigation. OCFA fire investigators have determined the damage to the structures and their contents is approximately \$270,000.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is encouraged to call the Orange County Sheriff's Department at (714) 647-7000. Anonymous tips may be submitted to Orange County Crime Stoppers at 855-TIP-OCCS (855-847-8227) or at [ocrimestoppers.org](http://ocrimestoppers.org).

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