

RANCHO SANTA FE
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FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067-0410

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OILY RAGS IGNITE EXTERIOR OF HOUSE IN RANCHO SANTA FE

RANCHO SANTA FE, Calif. — On Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at 8:38 p.m., firefighters from the Solana Beach Fire Department (SBFD), which is part of a cooperative services agreement with Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD), conducted an investigation at a home on Rancho Viejo Drive in Rancho Santa Fe after the homeowner reported a small fire. The fire had been extinguished by the time they arrived. Upon inspection, it was determined that the fire, which caused approximately \$5,000 in damage, was caused by the spontaneous combustion of rags covered in oil and paint.

“It is important to always properly dispose of work rags that have oil or paint on them, especially if the oil contains linseed oil,” said RSFFPD’s Fire Marshal Cliff Hunter. “They should be soaked in a bucket of water or spread out on a clothesline to dry. Do not throw them in a pile, whether inside or outside.”

The mission of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is “To protect life, property, and environment through prevention, preparedness, education and emergency response.” Formed in 1946, the Fire District now spans approximately 42-square miles and protects over 29,000 citizens. The Fire District currently operates out of four full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe and 4S-Ranch.

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