



# NEWS RELEASE

**Chico Fire Prevention & Life Safety Bureau**



**Date: Contact: Marie Fickert**

**Cell: 530-521-8092**

**RE: Two Alarm Residential Structure Fire**

**Chico** – Chico Fire-Rescue responded to an early morning residential structure at 629 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, near Hazel Street. The fire was discovered by one of the occupants of the home, and was reported to 9-1-1 at approximately 4:10 AM this morning. The home is occupied by four college students. Four residents, and one guest were home at the time the fire broke out. Two of the residents were watching television when one of them saw flickering light coming from a window located above the front door of the home. When the resident opened the front door, he discovered the wooden front porch was on fire, which included two burning couches which were located on the porch. The resident alerted three of the other four occupants, but one of his roommates was sleeping. The four occupants of the home pounded on their sleeping roommate's locked bedroom door in an attempt to wake him up, but their roommate did not wake up. The four occupants evacuated out the rear door of the home, and once outside, broke their sleeping roommate's bedroom window from the exterior of the home, and were able to wake him up. The last remaining roommate sustained a burn injury to both his feet during his evacuation. Firefighters and Medic's from Butte County EMS treated the injured resident at the scene, but the victim declined being transferred by ambulance to the hospital. Chico Fire-Rescue's Truck 1, and Squad 1 crews were the first to arrive at the scene of the structure fire. Chico Fire-Rescue Capt. Jesse Alexander reported that the front porch of the home, and the front exterior of the home were fully involved with fire upon their arrival. Alexander stated that black smoke was pouring from the west window of the home, and that flames extended from the porch, to 5 feet above the top of the home. Firefighters were able to prevent the fire from burning the interior of the home, which only sustained only minor heat, and smoke damage. Chico Fire Prevention Bureau has an Investigation Team at the scene, and is conducting an Origin and Cause investigation. Anyone with information regarding the cause of the fire is encouraged to contact the Chico Fire Prevention Bureau at 895-4911. Damage estimates are pending. Responding to the 2 Alarm Fire were: Seven Engines, Truck 1, Squad 1, Crash Rescue 3, Company One Volunteer Firefighters, and approximately 30 personnel. Chico Police, Chico V.I.P.S, CAL Fire-Butte County Fire and Pacific Gas and Electric also responded, and assisted at the scene.