DATE: 8/12/23
TIME OF ALARM: 4:28:28 AM
TYPE OF ALARM: Commercial Structure Fire
LOCATION: 300 Block of E. 10th St., Pittsburg
RESPONSE: 4 Alarm: 13 Engines, 4 Trucks, 2 Rescues, 4 Battalion Chiefs, 1 District Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 2 Safety Officers, 1 Breathing Support, 1 PIO, 1 Fire Mechanic, 1 Dozer Tender
ASSISTING AGENCIES: Con EMS, Pittsburg PD, PG&E, City of Pittsburg Water/Public Works/Building Division
TOTAL FIRE PERSONNEL AT SCENE: 76

Contra Costa County Fire responded to the report of a commercial structure fire in Pittsburg. Truck 84 (Pittsburg) responded to the reported address and was in the area within two minutes. T84 noted heavy smoke on E. 10th St. while responding. After checking the reported address and not finding a fire, Truck 84 (Pittsburg) and Engine 85 (Pittsburg) checked the E. 10th St. area. The crews arrived on scene within five minutes to find heavy smoke from a 3 story commercial building. Due to the size of the building and fire conditions, a second alarm was called by the initial arriving companies.

Crews identified the building as abandoned, but initiated a fire attack and search to ensure that no one was inside the building. While crews were inside the building, the smoke and fire conditions changed rapidly and crews were removed from the building. Due to heavy fire, pressurized smoke conditions, and the deep seated nature of the fire, operations were changed from offensive (interior) to defensive (exterior). Two additional alarms of resources were ordered due to workload and water supply issues. The fire was also producing large fire brands and embers that were being sent into the surrounding neighborhood. The fourth alarm units were used to patrol the neighborhood to ensure that no other structures were impacted by the embers.

The defensive fire operations were complicated by low water pressure due to the large volume of water being used. Contra Costa Fire worked with City of Pittsburg Water to increase the hydrant pressure in the area. The City of Pittsburg also assisted with police for traffic control and Building Department personnel.

Crews remained on scene for seven hours to complete suppression and overhaul of the structure.

Feel free to contact me if you have any comments or questions regarding this incident.

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