



City of Chowchilla POLICE DEPARTMENT

Date: March 3, 2008
To: Media
From: David Noblett, Police Sergeant
Subject: Structure Fire

At approximately 8:12 a.m. on Monday, March 3, 2008, the Chowchilla Police Department and the Chowchilla Volunteer Fire Department responded to a structure fire in the 300 block of Myer Drive. As officers arrived on scene, they could see that one of the 8 unit buildings was engulfed in flames. Officers were evacuating the residents of the buildings as the Fire Department arrived on scene. Officers located one subject who was suffering from smoke inhalation outside one of the buildings. Officers later discovered that the victim had been pulled from his burning apartment by the apartment manager, Cindy Torres and residents Maria Pena and Kimberly Norman. The Fire Department credited the three ladies as saving the life of the victim.

Due to the efforts of the Chowchilla Volunteer Fire Department, the fire was contained to only two units of the 8 unit building. The other six units suffered minor smoke damage. The Red Cross was called to assist the families who were displaced due to the fire. Corsaro's Family Pizza assisted during the fire by donating several pizzas for the displaced families and residents.

"The Chowchilla Volunteer Fire Department did an outstanding job containing the fire to only two units" stated Sgt. Noblett of the Chowchilla Police Department. "Without the help of citizens who were not afraid to get involved, this incident would have ended tragically." The cause of the fire was determined to be a lamp and a fan in one of the apartments.