



SHERIFF LAURIE SMITH

For Immediate Release- Media

Office of the Sheriff

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TYPE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire and Suspicious Circumstances

LOCATION: 14500 Big Basin Way, Saratoga, CA 95070

CASE NUMBER: 19-308-0083S

DETAILS:

On Monday 11/4/2019 at approximately 8:41 AM, deputies responded to a report of a fire at a commercial building located at 14500 Big Basin Way in Saratoga.

Upon arrival, Santa Clara County Firefighters found smoke in the building with sprinklers and alarms activated. While extinguishing the fire, firefighters found a 73-year-old female, later identified as Janice Carlstrom, inside of the building.

Ms. Carlstrom was employed as a secretary/bookkeeper in the downtown Saratoga office of Pollack Enterprises. Sheriff's detectives obtained a statement from Ms. Carlstrom while being treated at a local area hospital for injuries sustained during the event.

Ms. Carlstrom told investigators that she arrived to work around 7:30 AM, went upstairs and unlocked the office. She then went back down to her vehicle for a short period of time before returning up to the office. After re-entering the office, she remembered an unknown assailant coming up behind her and duct-taping her eyes and mouth closed. Ms. Carlstrom did not have a memory of anything else related to the assault until she was awoken by fire sprinklers and being helped by firefighters. Although this is an ongoing investigation, the Sheriff's Office does not feel that the public is in any danger.

Investigators were on scene throughout the majority of the day gathering evidence and investigating the suspicious circumstances surrounding the incident.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office at 408-808-4500. Alternatively, you can contact the Sheriff's Office Investigative Services anonymous tip line at 408-808-4431.

Prepared By: Sergeant Michael Low
Approved By: Undersheriff Rick Sung

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