

City of

HURST TEXAS

POLICE DEPARTMENT



PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

Date: April 9, 2018
Issued by: Sgt. Lonnie Brazzel
Time: 2:30 pm
Topic: House Explosion

The Hurst Police Department is continuing the investigation into the residential house explosion that occurred at 433 Myrtle Drive at approximately 1:03 pm on Saturday, April 7th, 2018. Hurst Police and Fire personnel were initially dispatched to the residence on the homeowner's report that a vehicle had just crashed into their house, and one of the residents was trapped in a bedroom. Several officers from the Hurst Police Department arrived on scene at the same time, and as they were walking up to the residence to assist, the house suddenly exploded in a massive fireball which lifted the roof from the structure and blew out most of the back wall. At the time of the explosion, a husband and wife were still inside the house with their adult son. Officers ran to the back of the house and found the wife severely injured and buried in rubble. They pulled her outside to safety while getting her husband and son outside away from the house. Hurst Fire Department personnel arrived and began treating the injured and fighting the fire. All three occupants of the house were transported to area hospitals for treatment. The mother and father were reported to have serious burn injuries and are still under hospital care, and the son was treated and released for less serious injuries. The names of the residents are not being released due to privacy concerns.

Two Hurst Police officers received minor injuries from the incident. Officer Travis Hiser was treated and released from a local hospital for injuries he received from the initial explosion, and Corporal Ryan Tooker was treated and released at the scene for cuts and abrasions received while assisting victims in the house.

Investigation at the scene indicated the explosion was likely due to the accumulation and ignition of natural gas inside the house, which was caused when the vehicle crashed into the house and severed the primary gas line and meter that supplied the residence. The vehicle, a white 2000 Ford Explorer, was driven by a single occupant who identified himself as 35 year old Alejandro Enriquez-Castro. Castro, a nearby Hurst resident, was arrested at the scene for a misdemeanor charge of No Drivers License and transported to the Hurst Jail, where bond was set at \$180. Castro was found to have several unconfirmed alias names and was placed on an immigration detainer and transferred to ICE this morning. Hurst Police investigators are still in the process of determining the causative factors that contributed to the initial vehicle crash into the house.

Castro's Hurst PD book-in photo:



For additional information, please contact:

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All media related inquiries should be directed to Sgt. Lonnie Brazzel at PIO@hursttx.gov