

**CASE STUDY:  
672 BRANCH STREET 2/18/2010**

v1.3

There are two realities on this fire -

The version told by SLOFD:

SLOFD

No mention of how quick they responded. (They noted the victim's son came to the station but paid so little attention that they still were unsure if the fire was in Chile Peppers restaurant or on Branch Street.

Unsure how many people lived in house.

Upon arrival, heavy smoke from entire roof and fire behind window Side D.

Claimed to use preconnect to put water through Side D on the fire.

Early into the fire, Batt 2 Commander declared the fire defensive.

After going defensive, FD cut holes in top center of roof to focus and accelerate the fire for a quicker burn.

Standard operating procedure for SLO City FD

The version told by the victims:

VICTIMS

Took 20 minutes to get to fire one block away. Victim sent his son (on foot) to the Fire Department.

Five people clearly lived in the house and victims told the FD.

Only one room (Side D) on fire when the FD arrived.

Begged firemen to put water through window on fire. Asked to use the hose when firemen would not. Water on walls and roof - not on fire.

House could/should have been saved if firemen would have fought the fire.

After going defensive, the only reason to cut holes in roof is to assist in the clean, fast burning of the structure.

5/22/2018