



NEWS RELEASE

City of Martinez
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August 23, 2018

PRESS RELEASE #8.23.2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Minor Explosion at Martinez Water Plant

Contact: Anne Cardwell, Assistant City Manager (925) 372-3577

This morning at approximately 7:45 am at the Water Treatment Plant, located at 3003 Pacheco Boulevard, employees reported an explosion of a 100-gallon Sodium Hypochlorite container.

Martinez Police Officers, Contra Costa County Fire, and Contra Costa County Hazmat responded. One employee was transported to the hospital for assessment due to cuts and abrasions.

The preliminary investigation revealed that employees were moving plastic containers of Sodium Hypochlorite when one employee noticed the container hot to the touch. The container suddenly exploded releasing the chemical onto the ground. There is no indication that the explosion was in any way related to operations at the plant or actions by employees.

Employees acted immediately to contain the chemical and upon the arrival of ConFire and County Hazmat, containment procedures were initiated. The container itself stored 100 gallons of Sodium Hypochlorite and the quantity released does not pose a threat to the community. Additionally, the water supply at the plant was in no way impacted.

The investigation into this incident is continuing and the operations at the Martinez Water Treatment Plant have not been impacted in any way. Again, there is no danger or impact to the surrounding neighborhood due to this incident.

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