



KENNEWICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 2, 2023
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief
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KFD#: 2301173

[Kennewick, WA] On Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 9:25 p.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department (KFD), Benton County Fire District 1, and Richland Fire & Emergency Services were dispatched to a residential fire, located at 1408 S. Morain St. in Kennewick.

The first KFD crew arrived on scene just over 4 minutes after being dispatched. Upon arrival, the crew observed smoke coming from a modular home. Responding crews quickly applied water to an exterior wall on the backside of the home and extinguished the fire. Additional responding crews checked for active fire inside the home and attic space and quickly determined the fire originated inside the laundry room before spreading to the exterior wall. The homeowner was able to help prevent the fire from spreading further by applying water with a garden hose before fire crews arrived on scene. The fire was under control and extinguished within 9 minutes of the first fire crew's arrival on scene.

Although KFD was able to rapidly extinguish this fire, the fire caused significant thermal damage to wiring within the wall that must be repaired by a certified electrician before power can be restored to the home. The home will be uninhabitable until necessary repairs can be made to restore power.

Three adults were in the home at the time of the fire. Fortunately, Kennewick Police Department Police Officers, who were in the area, were able to ensure all three occupants were evacuated prior to fire crews arriving on the scene.

The cause of the fire was determined to be electrical. The homeowner informed firefighters that the fire started in a light switch that had recently been installed in the laundry room.

The Kennewick Fire Department would like to remind everyone to exit the premises immediately if a fire occurs in your home.

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