



KENNEWICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: April 12, 2023
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief
Phone: 509-820-0460
KFD# 2303659

[Kennewick, WA] On Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 12:49 p.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department (KFD) were dispatched to a reported apartment fire at 1109 S. Olympia Pl. in Kennewick. Calls to 9-1-1 reported a significant fire on the porch and residents possibly unable to escape from the two-story four-plex. Because numerous KFD crews were already on the scene of a separate commercial structure fire in NE Kennewick, several neighboring fire agencies were dispatched to assist, including Benton Co. Fire District No. 1, Franklin Co. Fire District No. 3, Pasco Fire Department, and Richland Fire and Emergency Services. The Kennewick Police Department also responded to the scene.

The first fire crew arrived on scene within 4 minutes of being dispatched. Upon arrival, the crew observed heavy fire and smoke on the front porch. Kennewick Police officers alerted KFD crews to an occupant they had located who had escaped the fire, but suffered second-degree burns. That patient was treated by KFD firefighter/paramedics and transported by ambulance to the hospital. Firefighters quickly extinguished the porch fire and then entered each of units at the fourplex to extinguish fires that had extended inside.

A fire investigation is underway, although currently, the cause appears to be unintentional. Unfortunately, significant smoke, water, and fire damage will prevent the fourplex from being reoccupied until substantial repairs can be completed, leaving seven occupants displaced as a result. The American Red Cross is assisting these individuals with temporary shelter.

A second occupant, who suffered minor injuries due to the fire, was transported via personal vehicle to the hospital for treatment. No firefighters were injured during firefighting operations.

The Kennewick Fire Department reminds citizens to please use caution with flame, heat and spark-producing equipment, including discarded smoking materials, barbecues, power tools, vehicles and welding operations. When strong winds are predicted in our area, residents and businesses must use extreme caution at home, in the workplace and on the road, as strong winds compound the risk of rapidly spreading fire.

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