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# KENNEWICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

## HONOR ♦ SELFLESSNESS ♦ COMPETENCE

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### MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023  
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief  
Phone: 509-820-0460  
KFD#: 2305262

[Kennewick, WA] On Monday, May 22, 2023, at 7:28 p.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department (KFD) were dispatched to a reported residential structure fire at 2721 S. Garfield St. While enroute to the call, KFD units reported seeing a visible column of smoke several blocks away. Fortunately, one of the occupants alerted all residents to the fire and they safely evacuated the home before firefighters arrived.

The first KFD crew arrived on scene within 3 ½ minutes of being dispatched. Upon arrival, the crew discovered active fire under the patio extending into house and spreading throughout the backyard. Firefighters quickly knocked down the fire from the backyard, and as additional units arrived, crews entered the home to extinguish fire in the kitchen and attic spaces, search the home for any remaining occupants, and pull ceiling to locate any hidden fire activity. Additionally, crews used the department's aerial ladder truck to shuttle firefighters onto the roof where they cut an opening that allowed smoke and superheated gases to safely exhaust out of the attic. The Kennewick Police Department, Benton Co. Fire District #1, Pasco Fire Department, and the Benton Public Utility District also responded to assist with rendering the scene safe.

The cause fire remains under investigation, but investigators believe the fire started in the area of the back patio. Damage to the home leaves a family of eight displaced and the KFD's Chaplain and the American Red Cross are assisting them with temporary housing.

This is the third residential structure fire the KFD has responded to in Kennewick in just over 24 hours. Following the home burned in the Zintel Canyon Greenway fire, the KFD also responded to a garage fire Monday afternoon where a resident was treated for smoke inhalation before later responding to Monday evening's house fire on Garfield.

The KFD would like to partner with our community to help keep Kennewick fire safe. We urge everyone to use caution with any activities that could result in a fire. We also encourage everyone to call 911 immediately if a fire is detected. Early notification plays a critical role in minimizing the impact of a fire, and helping protect lives.

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