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# KENNEWICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

## HONOR ♦ SELFLESSNESS ♦ COMPETENCE

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### MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 2, 2023  
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief  
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KFD#: 2306704

[Kennewick, WA] On Saturday, July 1, 2023, at 10:59 p.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department, Richland Fire & Emergency Services, and Benton County Fire District 1 were dispatched to a reports of smoke coming from a garage located at 2104 N. Vermont Loop.

The first fire unit to arrive on scene was an automatic aid fire engine from Richland Fire & Emergency Services. The station that houses this crew is located very close to the border between the City of Kennewick and the City of Richland, and arrived on scene just over six minutes from the time they were dispatched. Their radio report upon arriving at the scene confirmed that smoke was coming from the garage. The first due engine from Kennewick and the on duty Battalion Chief from Kennewick arrived on scene minutes later. The Kennewick Fire Battalion Chief reported a working fire in a garage attached to a home, and began directing crews to extinguish the fire and conduct a search of the home to look for any occupants that may have still been inside.

While conducting a search of the home, fire crews located two dogs that they were able to safely remove from the home without injury. Fortunately, it was quickly determined that both of the occupants living in the home had self-evacuated before fire crews arrived on the scene.

Fire crews were able to contain the fire to the garage with no fire spread into the home. Unfortunately, the fire had extended into the crawl space prior to fire crews arriving on scene. Although the fire was extinguished within 25 minutes of fire crews arriving at the scene, smoke and water damage will prevent the home from being reoccupied until substantial repairs have been completed.

Special assistance with traffic control was received from the Kennewick Police Department, and Benton PUD provided assistance with disconnecting power to the home.

There were no injuries to firefighters or civilians as a result of the fire.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined, and is still under investigation.

The Kennewick Fire Department would like to remind everyone to exit the premises immediately with the occurrence of any fire in your home. According to the Fire Safety Research Institute, "Today you have the least amount of time to safely exit your home than any other time in history."

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