



KENNEWICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dedicated to providing excellent public service and ensuring the safety and well-being of our community and one another. We live, act, and serve our community with the utmost integrity.

MEDIA RELEASE UPDATE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 21, 2022
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief
Phone: 509-820-0460
KFD# 22-002464

[Kennewick, WA] UPDATE – March 21, 2022

The investigation into the cause of the fire that occurred at 4120 W. Albany has been completed. The cause was determined to be unintentional. The ignition source of the fire was a power supply for an electric recliner located in a bottom floor unit. Additionally, it was discovered that both the front door and the rear sliding glass door were unintentionally left open when the occupants living in the apartment of origin fled from the fire. With greater than 20 mile per hour winds that evening, the introduction of air traveling through the apartment created a flow path of fresh air that allowed the fire to rapidly grow.

The Kennewick Fire Department would like to re-inforce the importance of closing doors after escaping a from a fire. Closed doors and windows limit the amount of oxygen available for a fire to burn and helps reduce the speed at which a fire can grow and spread.

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(Original) MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 13, 2021
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief
Phone: 509-820-0460
KFD# 22-002464

[Kennewick, WA] On March 13, 2022, at 03:39 a.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department, Richland Fire & Emergency Services, the Pasco Fire Department, and Benton County Fire District #1 were dispatched to a commercial fire. The initial information reported by dispatch indicted that an apartment was on fire.

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The first KFD crew arrived on scene within 6 minutes of being dispatched, and found a fourplex heavily involved in fire. 20 mile per hour-sustained winds spread the fire to the roof and attic of a nearby fourplex before fire crews arrived. Initial firefighting efforts were placed on preventing the fire from spreading further. The arrival of additional firefighting resources allowed fire crews to focus efforts on fire extinguishment in the building the fire originated.

The fourplex the fire started in was occupied at the time of the fire. Officers from the Kennewick Police Department assisted with evacuations before the KFD arrived on scene. Fortunately, the second fourplex was vacant. It is currently unknown how many occupants were displaced because of the fire. Red Cross and the Fire Chaplain are working closely with displaced occupants to find temporary housing.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

“As we spring forward” this weekend, remember to check your smoke alarms when you change your clocks. This is a good time to replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms or replace the entire device if it is more than 10 years old.

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