



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

For Immediate Release

Date: April 26, 2022
Contact: Michael Heffner, Deputy Fire Chief
Phone: 509-585-4453
KFD# 22-04054

[Kennewick, WA] On Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 10:51 a.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department and Benton County Fire District No. 1 were dispatched to a residential structure fire. The location of the incident was 1823 W. 19th Ave in Kennewick.

The fire was initially reported to the 9-1-1 dispatch center by the Kennewick Fire Department's (KFD) Emergency Medical Services Officer, Captain Eric Nilson. At the time, Capt. Nilson was driving to attend a meeting at KFD's headquarters and witnessed heavy smoke coming from a neighborhood along his driving route. Upon locating the structure on fire, Capt. Nilson observed gray smoke gusting out from many of the home's windows, suggesting a hot, smoldering fire inside. After reporting the fire to 9-1-1, he walked around the home to further assess fire conditions, determine if the home was occupied, and develop a tactical plan for responding crews. Safety concerns included moderate winds fanning the fire and overhead power lines.

The first KFD crew arrived on scene within 5 minutes of being dispatched. With Capt. Nilson already established as incident command, the first arriving crew began to quickly attack the fire. Initial priorities were placed on locating and extinguishing the source of the fire and searching the home for any occupants. Additional arriving fire crews safely searched the home and confirmed there were no occupants inside. Fire was located and extinguished in a bedroom, the kitchen, the living room, and part of the attic.

It took approximately 15 minutes to bring the fire under control and a total of 25 firefighters responded to the scene. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. Smoke and fire damage to the home was significant and the structure was determined not safe to be occupied. The home's occupant has obtained alternate living accommodations and is working with a contractor to secure the structure. There were no injuries to firefighters, no damage to adjacent homes, and no impact to overhead power

There were no injuries to firefighters or civilians

The Kennewick Fire Department would like to remind everyone to call 911 immediately if you see smoke coming from a home. People in the community play a key role in helping prevent the spread of fire, and in providing firefighters with sufficient time to help evacuate occupants that are not able to evacuate on their own.

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