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# KENNEWICK FIRE DEPARTMENT

## HONOR ♦ SELFLESSNESS ♦ COMPETENCE

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### MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: December 22, 2022  
Contact: Chad Michael, Fire Chief  
Phone: 509-820-0460  
KFD#: 2213511

[Kennewick, WA] On Wednesday, December 21, 2022, at 7:50 p.m., fire crews from the Kennewick Fire Department, the Pasco Fire Department and Benton County Fire District 1 were dispatched to a residential fire. The location of the incident was 5220 S. Auburn Pl. in Kennewick. Initial information provided by the dispatch center to responding fire crews was that a bedroom was on fire at this location.

The first KFD crew arrived on scene within 9 minutes of being dispatched. Crews took caution when responding due to icy road conditions. The first arriving crew observed visible flames coming from an upstairs bedroom window of a two-story home. That crew quickly applied water on the fire from the front yard to darken down the fire while additional crews were still responding to the scene. This action is routinely used by fire response crews, and is an industry best practice – referred to as a “transitional attack” – frequently implemented to prevent additional fire spread. Once additional crews arrived on scene, fire crews were assigned to conduct firefighting operations from inside the home and complete a search for any occupants that may be inside of the home.

The fire was extinguished within approximately 20 minutes of the first crew’s arrival on scene. The fire was contained to the bedroom of origin in which the fire started, and did not spread into any other parts of the home. This is attributed in part to a young man that closed the bedroom door before leaving the home, which helped keep the fire contained to the room the fire started in. This is also attributed to fire crews rapidly placing water on the fire.

Fire crews additionally invested substantial effort into placing tarps to help minimize water damage on the first floor of the home, and picked up all of the Christmas gifts under the tree to prevent them from being damaged from the standing water that pooled up during extinguishment of the fire.

The home was occupied at the time of the fire, but everyone inside made it out safely. Due to smoke and water damage, a family of four will be temporarily displaced.

No civilians sustained any injuries from the fire. One firefighter sustained a minor injury because of their work inside of the home during firefighter operations. Fortunately, the injury did not require any medical treatment or transport.

The cause of the fire was determined to be a young man that was using a lighter to melt spray foam residential insulation. It was not clear as to what exactly he was working on when this occurred.

The Kennewick Fire Department would like to remind everyone to get out and stay out if you have a fire in your hose. Work with your family to develop a home fire escape plan and practice it.

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