



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2023

### CONTACT

Rachael Doniger, public information officer, (425) 512-3758, media line (425) 754-0443

## Smoke alarms alert family to house fire; no injuries

Everett Fire reminds the community working smoke alarms help save lives

EVERETT, WA – Everett Firefighters credit working smoke alarms for awakening a south Everett family of a residential fire early this morning, allowing them to evacuate their burning home safely.

Shortly after 6:00 a.m., Everett Firefighters arrived to a working house fire in the 300 block of 88th St SE after one of the residents called 911. The family reported that the home's smoke alarms woke them and alerted them of the fire, allowing them to evacuate with several family pets. Sadly, one dog and possibly a few other pets perished in the fire. The Everett Fire Marshal's Office determined the fire originated in the kitchen; however, the cause is under investigation.

This incident is a powerful reminder of how vital a working smoke detector can be to potentially alert residents and provide an opportunity to escape. "Smoke alarms are the first line of defense in alerting a person to the dangers of smoke and fire," said Kurtis Brown, Fire Marshal of the Everett Fire Department. "It is critical that these life-saving devices are checked and tested frequently to ensure proper functioning."

It is important to remember that smoke alarms need to be maintained. All smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and batteries need to be checked and replaced regularly. Check the manufacturer's expiration date and specifications on the label to ensure the smoke alarm is not outdated. All smoke alarms should be replaced completely every ten years. These simple steps will help ensure that you and your family will have the best chance of surviving if a fire should strike.

Families should also practice their fire escape plan, to ensure they can quickly escape if awakened by a fire. For more information on smoke alarms and fire escape plans, visit the [National Fire Protection Association website](https://www.nfpa.org) (nfpa.org).

The Everett Fire Department, in cooperation with the [American Red Cross of Snohomish County](#), will install smoke alarms, free of charge, in the homes of low-income, seniors and those with disabilities. If you need assistance and live in the Everett city limits, contact the [Everett Fire Marshal's Office](#) at 425-257-8100 or email at [FMO@everettwa.gov](mailto:FMO@everettwa.gov).

Thank you to South County Fire and Rescue for their mutual aid assistance, and to the Everett Police Department for assisting with traffic control.

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