



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

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No injuries in early morning apartment fire

Everett Firefighters stress the importance of working smoke alarms in homes.

EVERETT, WA – There were no injuries or fatalities in an early morning fire at the Marie Anne Terrace apartments at 1030 Ttereve Dr. Shortly before 12:30 a.m., 911 received multiple calls reporting a fire at the three-story apartment building.

Engine 5 arrived on the scene and found fire venting out of the front window of a second-floor apartment, which extended to the third-floor apartment right above. The engine company quickly applied water from the outside into the second and third-floor apartments, allowing allowed firefighters to enter the apartment to contain the fire and search for any victims. The fire was under control within 20 minutes.

Two apartments sustained extensive fire damage, and several others sustained smoke and water damage. The Red Cross was called to assist four families - 10 people – who were displaced by the fire. Firefighters were able to reunite a family dog with its owner.

Everett Police assisted with evacuating residents from the building. South County Fire and Mukilteo Fire provided automatic mutual aid.

A fire investigator from the Everett Fire Marshal's Office responded to the scene and determined the origin of the fire started in a bedroom in the second-floor apartment. The cause is ruled as undetermined. An undetermined cause classification means that the cause of the fire could not be proven to an acceptable level of certainty. No evidence or information leads investigators to believe a crime was committed.

Importance of smoke alarms

Heating, cooking, holiday decorations and candles all contribute to an increased risk of fire during the winter months. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), home fires occur more in the winter than in any other season.

The smoke alarms in the apartment were not operational.

The Everett Fire Department urges our community to act to ensure they have working smoke alarms in the right places in their residence. Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, including the basement, in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Larger homes may need extra smoke alarms.

"Smoke alarms save lives," states Assistant Fire Marshal William Armstrong. "They are the first line of defense and a critical component to potentially alert a person to the dangers of smoke and fire. Smoke alarms provide crucial time and opportunity for you and your family to escape. 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. Remember to close doors behind you as you evacuate. For more information on smoke alarms and fire escape plans, visit the [National Fire Protection Association](http://www.nfpa.org) website (nfpa.org).

The Everett Fire Department has a program to assist our residents with installing smoke alarms free of charge. If you need assistance and live in the Everett city limits, contact the [Everett Fire Marshal's Office](mailto:FMO@everettwa.gov) at 425-257-8100 or email at FMO@everettwa.gov.

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