

Serving the Cities of Kent, SeaTac, Covington, and King County Fire District 37

*Professionally and Compassionately Helping People*

## 3-Alarm Commercial Fire

**Kent, Wash. – November 13, 2016-** At 2:27 PM this afternoon, Kent RFA and South King Fire Rescue units were dispatched to a minor fire at a small strip mall in the 23400 block of Pacific Highway S.

The first arriving fire department units upgraded the incident to a “working” fire and called a second alarm after seeing smoke coming from the building. That alarm dispatched several more fire units from throughout south King County to assist with the fire.

Once emergency personnel confirmed that everyone was out of all the businesses, firefighters were withdrawn from the inside of the structure due to the continued spread of the fire and the dangerous conditions. A third alarm was requested of dispatchers, approximately forty minutes after the initial units arrived.

The three alarms totaled seventy-five firefighters and over twenty support personnel.

Currently, firefighters are hitting remaining hot spots through the collapsed roof as they continue to flare up with ladder trucks that have large hoses mounted on the tips. Crews will be on scene through the night to fight the fire and provide security to the scene.

An investigator will return to the scene in the morning to determine the cause of the fire.

The strip mall contains the following types of businesses: a Dollar merchandise store; Tobacco shop; US Post Office, Beauty salon; Specialty food store; and Fitness gym. All were damaged by the fire, with the first three almost completely destroyed.

The following agencies assisted at the fire: Burien FD; Renton RFA; Tukwila FD; Valley RFA; KCFD 20; Medic One; and Kent PD.

The Kent RFA would like extend a special *thank you* to Puget Sound Energy; the Zone 3 Fire Explorers; Tukwila PD for the use of the mobile command post; and the Soup Ladies for providing food.

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