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REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY**
INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED FIRE AGENCY
Matthew Morris Fire Chief

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Apartment Fire in Kent

Kent, WA Dec.1, 2019

This evening at 11:19 PM Puget Sound Fire units were dispatched to a reported apartment fire at the 24100 block of 62 Way S in Kent. The initial reports were for smoke and flames from the 3rd floor balcony of the building. The first crew arrived at 11:24 PM and found the fire had spread from the deck to the 3rd floor apartment and upgraded the call to a “working fire” to gain additional resources. In total 8 fire department units responded including a ladder truck from South King Fire and Rescue to assist. Additional help was provided by King County Medic 1 and Zone 3 rehab

The first alarm assignment was able to gain a quick knock down of the fire and it was declared under control at 11:59 PM. The fire was limited to the unit involved and unfortunately two cats perished . The adjoining unit suffered some heat and smoke damage and the two apartments below the fire suffered water damage. In total 12 occupants were displaced from 4 units and were assisted by the Red Cross.

The cause of the fire was determined to be hot embers that had been removed from the fireplace earlier in the evening and disposed of in a plastic container on the deck. Loss is estimated at \$450,000 to include both the structure and contents. Crews will remain on scene for the rest of the night to monitor for hot spots.

Remember when disposing of hot ashes place them in a metal container with a tight-fitting lid and place them away from combustibles. Keeping doors closed also limits the spread of fire as well as damage due to heat and smoke.

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