



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Abandoned House Fire in Kent

Kent, WA Dec 23,

This Monday evening at 6:06 PM a single Puget Sound Fire engine company was dispatched to the 2500 block of S 272 St in Kent to a reported tree fire in a wooded area. While enroute additional callers indicated that it was an abandoned house in a wooded area next to a residence and an apartment complex. With the updated info the call was changed to a residential fire response bringing units from South King Fire and Rescue as well as Puget Sound Fire. With the closest command staff already committed to other calls, the initial upgrade drew chief officers from Valley Regional Fire Authority and Tukwila Fire.

The first arriving crew was familiar with the location down a long dirt driveway as there had been several fires here in the past. From the street they could see the structure was fully involved in fire and stretched a large attack line down the driveway for an initial attack. Later arriving crews extended the attack line with additional lines. There was a substantial amount of debris in the area to support the report that this wooded area was frequented by transients.

Due to the extent of damage and report that the building was abandoned the fire attack was limited to the exterior, also known as a "defensive" attack. A closer chief officer was freed up from another call and responded after coordinating with the other responding chief officers. The total fire response was 7 units with support from King County Medic 1 and Kent PD for traffic control.

The fire was declared out in about one hour and there were no injuries. The cause is still under investigation.

Incident responses like this highlight the effectiveness of the training provided by the South King County Fire Training Consortium. Through the SKCFTC thirteen local fire departments all receive the same training and drill together. When multiple jurisdictions show up on a call to work together it is seamless and everyone uses the same language and skills. This makes a much safer fire ground whether it is a small fire right on the border of two jurisdictions or a large fire that draws resources from a wider area.

MEDIA CONTACT: Captain Joe Root, PIO
24611 116th Avenue SE, Kent, Washington 98030
Desk 253.856.4481 - Cell 253.569.8809