



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Date: October 16, 2007  
Release: Immediately  
Contact: Storm Smith, Community Liaison, 503-441-9324 (pager)

### **(Apartment Fire Displaces Three)**

A slow, smoldering fire in an apartment bedroom has displaced tenants in two units at the Canyon Place Apartments, 6730 SW Canyon Drive. The fire occurred at 1:00 pm Tuesday and was discovered by one of the tenants of a second-floor unit when he returned home. The teenage occupant opened his front door and found thick, grey smoke to within two feet of the floor. He discharged a fire extinguisher into the entrance of the apartment with little result. When firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) arrived from the West Slope Fire Station #65, they found light smoke coming from the apartment. Upon entering the apartment, they found a fire had been burning in a back bedroom for several hours. The door to the bedroom had been closed and that kept smoke and fire damage from spreading throughout the apartment. The fire burned through a pile of clothes on the floor and burned a hole in the floor causing minor damage to the unit below. Firefighters quickly extinguished the flames.

The Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross responded to assist the two tenants of the fire apartment and the tenant below with alternate housing arrangements. The fire caused about \$30-thousand in damage. Fire investigators are interviewing occupants and are continuing to investigate the cause. During the investigation, investigators found there were no working smoke alarms in the apartment and in several other units in the same complex. State law requires landlords to ensure that tenants *have* working smoke alarms when they move in and tenants are responsible to *maintain* working smoke alarms in their apartments. For more information on smoke alarms, visit [www.tvfr.com](http://www.tvfr.com).

-30-

###