



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Date: April 4, 2008  
Release Date: Immediately  
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### **Firefighters Battle Fully-Involved House Fire; Requires Water Shuttle**

At 6:16 today, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue was dispatched to a house fire in Tualatin. The first arriving engine arrived in less than three minutes due to being on a commercial alarm in the nearby area. Calls to 9-1-1 reporting the fire came via cell phone from a motorist who believed the fire to be near 65<sup>th</sup> and Sagert. Firefighters were dispatched to that location – an area served by fire hydrants. However, when firefighters arrived at that location, they found no fire. They began searching south of Sagert Road based on a second call to 9-1-1. They identified a two-story home fully involved with fire at 6625 SW Robbins Road – an area without fire hydrants. They began fire attack with their on-board water supply and immediately called for additional units including three water tenders. Unknown if the homeowners had escaped, firefighters attempted to search the fully involved home but quickly ascertained that the home was non-survivable due to the magnitude of fire and were forced to back out and battle the fire defensively from the exterior. Commanders made contact via cell phone with the homeowners at about 6:40 am, upon which they confirmed that their entire family was out of the home and accounted for.

Firefighters battled the fire for over an hour, saving a nearby barn that contained recreational vehicles and equipment. Because the home was in an area without fire hydrants, the incident entailed an extensive water supply operation. Four water tenders—capable of transporting 2,500-3,500 gallons of water—continuously shuttled water to the scene for suppression efforts.

There were no injuries. An initial report of someone suffering minor smoke inhalation was unsubstantiated. The home is believed to be a total loss. No damage estimate at this time.

“Thankfully no one was hurt as a result of this fire. Our heart goes out to the family who has lost their home. Though we arrived within three minutes of being dispatched, we couldn’t undo what the fire had already done. The home was already so engulfed in flames, that our crews were forced to defensively attack the fire and protect nearby structures”, states Karen Eubanks, Public Information Officer of Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

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