



NEWS RELEASE

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Follow-Up on Tualatin House Fire

The cause of a massive house fire at 6625 SW Robbins Road in Tualatin this morning remains under investigation at this time. Fire investigators are conducting interviews and examining early morning aerial news footage of the fire. They will begin processing the scene once it is safe to enter. Due to the extensive size of the scene, the investigation may take several days to complete.

The fire investigation may also prove difficult due to the sheer magnitude of the fire before Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue crews even arrived. The first arriving crew—originally dispatched to a different location known to have fire hydrants—arrived within three minutes. The confusion over the location stemmed from several motorists reporting the fire via their cell phone, without knowing a specific address. Crews quickly confirmed the correct address and identified the area as not having fire hydrants. They called for additional firefighting units, including four water tenders to supplement their onboard water supply. Karen Eubanks, Public Information Officer, states, “Water tenders were utilized for over an hour to shuttle water to the scene.” Eubanks added, “Had there been a fire hydrant in the front yard, we still would not have been able to save this home due to the magnitude of fire when we arrived.” Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue will conduct a fire watch all night to ensure the fire does not rekindle. The homeowners were insured and are staying elsewhere.

Though residential fire sprinklers may not have made a difference in the outcome of this fire, they are proven to significantly reduce the amount of property damage from fire. Moreover, they provide a tenable space that allows occupants to safely exit their burning home. Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds; in only three minutes a room can become engulfed in flames before anyone awakens. In most cases, a residential sprinkler system will contain or extinguish a fire in the room of origin, before fire departments even arrive. Used together, residential sprinklers and smoke alarms increase your chances of surviving a fire by 82 percent. In addition, sprinkler systems reduce fire damage by as much as two-thirds when compared to homes without sprinklers. For more information on residential sprinkler systems, visit www.tvfr.com.

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