



NEWS RELEASE

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Firefighters Contain 2-Alarm Blaze

At 6:23 Saturday evening, firefighters were called to a fire at the Country Wood Apartments (17700 SW Shaw st.) in Aloha. On arrival crews found heavy fire and smoke blowing out the windows of a 3rd story apartment and quickly called for a 2nd alarm to bring additional resources to the scene. Due to the large volume of fire coming from the apartment unit, crews first attacked from the exterior and transitioned to the interior, pulling hose lines into affected unit. Firefighters had a quick knockdown of the fire and continued to battle hot-spots for 30 minutes. The building housed approximately 8 apartment units and firefighters from both Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue and Hillsboro Fire & Rescue did an excellent job of keeping the blaze from spreading to adjacent units.

According to the tenants, a small group of people were celebrating a birthday in the apartment when someone noticed heavy smoke coming from a bedroom. The occupants quickly evacuated and called 911. Apartment Manager Nikki Dahlberg said, "I first saw a few flames in the window and within a minute, it went up...it was all flames." Dahlberg quickly went door-to-door to evacuate all tenants from the affected building as well as the one next door. While the majority of damage occurred in a single unit, several other apartment units suffered smoke and water damage as well.

Approximately 23 people were displaced by the fire and were being assisted by Red Cross.

Investigators on scene determined that the fire originated in the main apartment bedroom, however, the exact fire cause is yet to be determined.

TVF&R wants to remind the community that working smoke alarms save lives. Be sure to test your smoke alarm today and ensure that your family has a fire escape plan! For more details, go to www.tvfr.com.



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