



NEWS RELEASE

Date: 1/19/2011
Release Date: Immediately
Contact: Brian Barker, Public Information Officer, 503-441-9324 (pager)

Two Apartments Damaged in Tualatin Fire

An early morning fire gutted one apartment unit and damaged another in Tualatin early this morning. Firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue quickly responded and prevented the fire from spreading to neighboring apartments.

A resident called 9-1-1 at 6:06 a.m. reporting flames and smoke coming from the rear of a two story apartment building at the Tualatin Heights Apartments located at 9301 SW Sagert in Tualatin. Firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue's Station 34 arrived within five minutes to find the rear of the building heavily involved with smoke and flames belching from the first and second floor units. Firefighters from Squirt 34 first determined that the building had been evacuated and that no-one was in either of the involved units, then began attacking the flames.

As additional crews arrived at the scene firefighters controlled the fire within fifteen minutes. No-one was injured and the occupants of two apartment units are displaced.

"Whenever you have a fire in an apartment building, there's a concern it will spread to other units," says TVF&R Public Information Officer Brian Barker, "although two units were involved before we arrived at the scene, a quick response by our firefighters was able to prevent it from spreading to the rest of the building."

Five fire engines, two fire trucks, a rehab unit, and one battalion chief responded to the fire with a total of 33 firefighters. A team of TVF&R fire investigators is working to determine the cause of the fire.