

News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 11, 2019

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San Juan Island Firefighters Respond to Residential Fire

FRIDAY HARBOR, WA -- On June 11, 2019 San Juan Island Fire and Rescue crews responded to an early morning, fully engulfed residential fire in the area of White Point area on San Juan Island.

The fire was contained to a two-story residential structure that started around 2:15 a.m. The residents were able to quickly evacuate the home and call 911. San Juan Island Fire and Rescue responded to the call and requested San Juan Island EMS for medical support.

Upon arrival, firefighters found the home to be fully engulfed, as well as several vehicles and trees behind the structure. Firefighters were able to quickly contain the fire to the structure area and were able to extinguish the fire in the trees to prevent further spread to other structures on the property. Unfortunately, the home and several vehicles were destroyed. Two residents of the home were transported by San Juan Island EMS to Peace Island Medical Center in Friday Harbor as a precaution for evaluation. The fire cause remains under investigation.

More than 20 fire personnel responded; additional assistance was provided on the scene by the San Juan Island Fire and Rescue logistics team assisting with self-contained breathing apparatus air bottle exchange and refilling. The logistics team also provided on-site rehabilitation for firefighter's rest and recovery.

San Juan Island Fire Chief Norvin Collins said, "It was unfortunate the fire was so fast that the home was destroyed. While the occupants had been transported to the hospital as a precaution, we are grateful that no one was seriously injured and the fire has been extinguished without spreading to adjacent buildings or properties because of the timely actions of our career and volunteer firefighters."

"We are grateful to our partners at San Juan Island EMS for their proactive on- scene assistance, and for the patience of neighbors in the area as we worked through the morning. We truly appreciate the support of our community."

(NOTE: Editors photographs are attached – Credit San Juan Island Fire and Rescue)

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The San Juan Island Fire & Rescue was established on October 6, 1958. The fire department covers about 55 square miles, includes all of San Juan Island, as well as Brown and Pearl Islands. For more information, please visit http://www.sjifire.org/