

Clallam County Fire District 3

323 N Fifth Ave., Sequim, Washington 98382 360-683-4242, Fax: 360-683-6834 www.ccfd3.org Bill Miano
Jeffrey C. Nicholas
Michael Mingee
Commissioners

Daniel Orr, Fire Chief

PRESS RELEASE 6/6/2023

South Fifth Avenue Porch Fire

On Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 0101 PenCom dispatched Clallam County Fire District #3 (Fire District) to a structure fire at 303 South Fifth Avenue #A.

Crews arrived on scene, simultaneously with Sequim Police Department, to a single story residential structure located behind an apartment building.

A removable bench seat from a van/SUV was sitting on a concrete slab under a porch overhang outside the front door of the residence. The seat had been fully involved in fire and was now smoldering. Neighbors smelt burning products, investigated, called 911, and extinguished most of the flames with an extinguisher prior to Fire District's arrival. The seat was pulled to the lawn by firefighters and fully extinguished with a water extinguisher and a garden hose.

The vinyl siding and the ceiling of the porch were damaged by fire. Siding was pulled away from the wall to check for fire extension. No damage was noted underneath and no further extension was found.

The house is occupied by two residents who stated, upon Fire District's arrival, that no one else was still in the house. The residents were asleep at the time of the fire and alerted to the fire and smoke by working audible smoke detectors.

The cause of the fire was due to improperly discarded smoking materials. The residents stated that they smoke cigarettes on the porch and then place their cigarette butts in a coffee can on the porch. The can was last located at the base of the bench seat and was black with char.

The residents are not displaced and were able to re-enter the structure.

The Fire District responded with three (3) structural engines, one (1) medic unit, and one (1) command vehicle.

The Fire District would like to remind everyone to test their smoke detectors often and change the batteries annually. They would also like to remind citizens that if you choose to smoke, have an appropriate area to discard materials that is away from all possible combustible materials.



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