January 6, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT: PFA Public Information Officer | 970-658-5502 or PFAMedia@poudre-fire.org

Two Structure Fires in Less Than Three Hours

PFA Firefighters responded to two residential structure fires in less than three hours yesterday. Thankfully, there were no injuries and firefighters rescued pets in both incidents.

Fire #1: 1500 block of Buttonwood Dr. near the intersection of Drake and Lemay

Units arrived at the first fire at 11:31 a.m. They saw smoke coming from the single story home. One resident was home and self-evacuated. Firefighters used a fognail from the roof to help extinguish the fire and lower temperatures. The sprinkler-like device can reach fires in confined spaces such as attics with less risk to responders and minimal damage to property. Firefighters were able to retrieve a cat, place it in a carrier and bring it to its owner. The fire involved the kitchen and attic and the majority of the kitchen ceiling collapsed. The Tower 1 Crew provided some ‘overhaul’ or cleanup, to assist the fire investigation and as a service to the resident.

Fire #2: 6600 block of Desert Willow Way near the intersection of Trilby and Lemay

Units arrived at the scene of the second fire at 2:23 p.m. Engine 14 was dispatch to a smoke investigation and quickly upgraded the call when they saw smoke inside the building. No one was home in the unit where the fire started, and residents in two other units were evacuated. Residents were allowed back in after ventilation and air levels were safe. Two cats and a dog were rescued from one unit and both of the cats suffered smoke inhalation. They were transported to a nearby veterinarian by UCHealth. The dog also received care. Firefighters removed a cat and dog from another unit that did not need care.

The fire responses overlapped and were more than six miles apart. This is a strong example of why we need a robust system strategically placed throughout the community.

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