Grease Fire Displaces Three People from Multi-family Structure

Three people were displaced by a grease fire this morning on the 1000 block of Sol Vista Ln. PFA was dispatched to the fire at 10:50 a.m. and arrived on scene less than five minutes later. Thankfully, there were no injuries. The resident of the unit where the fire started self-evacuated.

Firefighters saw smoke coming from the second floor windows and a working fire was confirmed. Two crews were assigned to fire attack and another crew entered the building to do a search for potential patients. Firefighters quickly had the fire knocked down and controlled. The fire was contained to the kitchen area preventing further damage from flames, but the building was highly affected by smoke. “The smoke was what made the building uninhabitable,” said a PFA Fire Investigator that was on the scene.

The fire was the result of a pan left unattended on the stove. It did not ignite until the occupant took the lid off the pan. The heat created by the fire was hot enough that it melted the doorbell nearly 20 ft. away. Cooking is the main cause of house fires and fire injuries, but they are preventable.

Here are three EASY things you can do to make your kitchen safer.

1. **Stand by Your Pan:** We know it’s tempting to run to another room or finish a project, but NEVER leave a pan unattended.

2. **Turn Pot Handles In.** Make sure your handles are turned toward the back of the stove. This prevents people from bumping into them or children from grabbing them.

3. **Put a Lid on It:** Keep a lid or sheet pan near you cooking area. Use it to cover the pan if it catches on fire. This will extinguish the flames.

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