



For Immediate Release

Contact: Peter Donovan  
(360) 630-6246  
[peterd@mountvernonwa.gov](mailto:peterd@mountvernonwa.gov)

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MOUNT VERNON-- Mount Vernon Fire Department responded to a reported explosion and fire in the garage of a single-family residence this morning in the 4000 block of Apache Drive.

Units arrived to find heavy smoke coming from the eaves and the garage. Fire crews were able to contain the fire to the garage, which sustained heavy damage to contents and a vehicle parked inside.

The fire displaced an elderly couple who said that they had “heard and felt” an explosion in the garage. Upon investigating, they discovered the garage was fully involved with smoke and fire. The couple was able to get out of the home without injury. No first responders sustained injuries on the call.

Fire crews battled the inclement weather in their response to the scene, and a second alarm was quickly initiated. Mutual aid units from Burlington Fire Department, and Fire Districts 2, 3, and 9 responded to the scene and staffed empty MVFD stations during the incident.

The fire is currently under investigation for cause and origin by the Skagit County Fire Marshal’s office. The Red Cross is helping the family with housing and expenses.

Safety tip: Only use approved heating appliances for inside your home during this cold weather. Heating elements that utilize fossil fuels such as gas, charcoal, or propane to heat the inside of your home produce carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a colorless odorless gas that displaces oxygen and has been known to take the lives of sleeping, or intoxicated occupants. Please ensure that you have a carbon monoxide detector on each level of your home.



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