



For Immediate Release

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

**June 21, 2021**

MOUNT VERNON— Mount Vernon Fire crews arrived at a South Mount Vernon structure fire at 4:17 a.m. today within what was believed to be an abandoned building, behind Pape Machinery (Hickox Road & Old Hwy 99 S).

Crews initiated defensive fire operations from the outside of the structure and made swift progress in extinguishing the significant amount of flames.

No injuries were reported, and the cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

“Fire safety is one of the more significant concerns for owners and managers of commercial buildings,” Mount Vernon Fire Chief Bryan Brice said. “Sprinkler systems are a major contribution to that safety because a fire in a commercial establishment could lead to serious injury or even the death of employees and customers. Loss of life, inventory, and the business itself can often be prevented.”

#END#