

TO: All Media Thursday, August 20th, 2015 **For Immediate Release**

Newport Fire Department was dispatched to a building fire at 08:07 this morning. 911 callers and an arriving police unit in the area described black smoke coming out of a business in the 200 block of South Coast Highway. A commercial structure fire response was initiated.

The first arriving fire engine found smoke showing from a retail store with apartments above. Once it was verified that everyone had evacuated the building, the fire was extinguished and the rest of the building ventilated. There was moderate heat and smoke damage to the business, with light smoke present in the adjoining business and apartments above. Occupants of the building were notified by a working smoke detector in the exit staircase.

A fire investigation was conducted once suppression operations had concluded. The fire was ruled accidental in nature, electrical in origin.

Newport Fire Department responded with 2 fire engines, a ladder truck, a heavy rescue and 15 personnel. Toledo Fire Department and Depoe Bay Fire responded for mutual aid coverage with an engine and crew. Pacific West Ambulance, ODOT, Newport Police Department, Newport Public Works and Central Lincoln PUD all assisted on scene.

Newport Fire Department would like to remind everyone to never "daisy chain" multiple extension cords, and make sure electrical circuits are not overloaded. Always use "protected circuit" devices if you have to use a multi-plug adapter or fuse bar device.

Chris Rampley, Fire Prevention Officer Newport Fire Department c.rampley@newportoregon.gov