



# CITY OF EDMONDS

250 5TH AVENUE NORTH • EDMONDS • WA 98020 • (425)771-0200 • FAX (425)771-0208

POLICE DEPARTMENT • AN ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

DAVE EARLING

MAYOR

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NEWS RELEASE #1**

**Date: February 13, 2012**

**Contact: Sergeant Mike Blackburn**

**Edmonds Police Department**

**Phone: (425) 771-0284**

### **Additional Information Regarding the Edmonds Apartment Fire**

On February 12, 2012, Edmonds Police officers were at an apartment complex in the 7600 block of 230<sup>th</sup> St SW for an unrelated matter. At approximately 3:34 a.m. the officers observed flames coming from another building within the same complex. Corporal Mike Richardson along with Officers Earl Yamane, Ryan Speer, Andy Mehl, and Jodi Sackville ran to the apartment to investigate. The officers radioed the 911 dispatch center to request a fire department response and then overheard someone yell that there were people inside the building.

As the group of officers neared the burning structure, the lights in the building went out. Undeterred, the five officers entered the burning building to awaken and evacuate residents. As they progressed through the two-story building, going door to door, the officers found it necessary to force their way into two of the apartment units, both still occupied by residents. One of these apartments was ablaze as the officers entered to assist the tenants out. Within minutes, two additional Edmonds Officers, David Lim and Jason Shier, arrived on scene and directed the fleeing residents away from the building to an area of safety. Edmonds Police Sergeant Jeff Jones also arrived on scene to coordinate the rescue efforts.

Units from Snohomish County Fire District 1, Lynnwood and Shoreline Fire Departments responded to fight the fire.

During the evacuation efforts, Officer Jodi Sackville was caught in an enveloping cloud of smoke and suffered smoke inhalation. Once all the residents were safely outside the building, Officer Sackville received initial medical attention from paramedics. Shoreline Medic Unit 63 transported the officer to Harborview Medical Center for additional care. The officer was released from the hospital shortly after 8:00 a.m. that same morning.

Snohomish County Fire District 1 investigators have concluded that the fire was caused by individuals smoking carelessly on an outdoor balcony.

Thanks to the quick actions of all the officers involved, the residents of this apartment building were safely removed without any serious injury.

PREPARED BY: Sergeant Mike Blackburn

DISTRIBUTION:     Mayor     Chief     Assistant Chiefs     Professional Stds. Sgt.  
                          Det. Sgt.     Patrol Sgt.     Exec. Assistant     Police Svc. Asst.

*Incorporated August 11, 1890*  
Sister City - Hekinan, Japan