



CITY OF RICHLAND
FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

1000 George Washington Way
Richland, WA 99352
(509) 942-7703



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 8, 2025

CONTACT: Mike VanBeek, Battalion Chief, 509-942-7751, mvanbeek@ci.richland.wa.us

Richland Fire's Response to July 4th Commercial Structure Fire on Reata Road

Richland, WA — On Thursday, July 4, at approximately 11:45 p.m., Richland Fire & Emergency Services, along with regional mutual aid partners, responded to a commercial structure fire at 179 Reata Road in Richland. The first fire unit arrived on scene within five minutes of dispatch.

Upon arrival, crews encountered multiple storage units actively burning, with flames visible through the roof of several units. Crews were also informed that two adult males had sustained burn injuries while attempting to extinguish the fire prior to the fire department's arrival. One individual was transported to a local hospital via private vehicle. The second individual, who sustained more significant injuries, was transported by Richland Fire & Emergency Services for emergency medical care.

The fire was brought under control within 30 minutes. However, due to the heavy fuel load within the storage units, fire personnel remained on scene for several hours to address hot spots and smoldering materials. An estimated 14 storage units were damaged because of the incident.

No injuries to firefighters were reported.

Fireworks activity was reported in the area shortly before the fire started. However, the cause of the fire remains under investigation by the Richland Fire Marshal's Office.

Richland Fire & Emergency Services would like to thank our mutual aid partners—Benton County Fire District #1, Kennewick Fire Department, and Pasco Fire Department—for their assistance in managing this incident.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with those injured in this fire. We wish them strength and a full recovery in the days ahead," said Richland Fire Chief Tom Huntington.

Richland Fire & Emergency Services is currently compiling data related to fire incidents and emergency responses connected to Fourth of July activities. A summary of those calls and impacts will be released once the information is finalized.

More information regarding Richland Fire & Emergency Services can be found at www.ci.richland.wa.us/fire.

Richland Fire and Emergency Service's mission is **To Protect and Enhance the Quality of Life**. Our department is dedicated to carrying out our mission each day with our vision, "Service above all," always at the forefront. We do this through our highly trained firefighting personnel, nationally recognized emergency medical responders and with a heightened focus on prevention and public education.