

**CENTRAL WHIDBEY ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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**CENTRAL WHIDBEY ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE
RRESPONDS TO FIRE AT THE SMITH BARN**

At 7:59 PM on March 6, 2017, Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue (CWIFR) was dispatched to a reported residential fire at 399 South Ebey Road in Coupeville. Initial reports were for a barn and house on fire.

Three engines, two water tenders, and two command officers were initially dispatched to this incident, but recognizing the size of the building and water supply challenges in this area of the community, the command duty officer requested an additional engine and water tender from North Whidbey Fire Rescue.

First arriving units encountered a large barn well involved in fire with some areas starting to collapse due to the effects of the fire. Water supply was established by laying 1000' of 5" hose from South Ebey Road and shuttling water with water tenders from a hydrant near Coupeville High School (location with the best access to refill the water tenders). The fire was confined to the Barn and vehicles involved on arrival with no extension to the nearby home.

The fire was under control by 10:00 pm, but several units remained on-scene overnight extinguishing hot spots in the collapsed structure. The last units left the scene following preliminary fire investigation at 12:01 pm on March 7, 2017. There was no indication that this was an incendiary fire, but cause and origin remain under investigation.

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For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Kim Harpe at (360) 678-3602.