



Klamath County Fire District No. 1

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Downtown Klamath Falls building destroyed by two alarm fire)

A downtown Klamath Falls building was destroyed by a two-alarm fire early Saturday morning. The building located at 280 Main Street was undergoing renovation and expansion. The fire also caused damage to the adjoining buildings including the rear exterior of the Klamath County Library.

The fire was reported to Klamath County Fire District No. 1 at 00:47 A.M. (47 minutes after midnight) early Saturday morning. The initial reports were of a large fire on the roof and an explosion. Prior to arrival of units from Klamath County Fire District No. 1, a second alarm was requested. A total of one ladder truck, six fire engines, one ambulance and four staff vehicles responded to the fire. Large amounts of water were used from numerous hydrant locations surrounding the scene to stop the spread of the fire and to cool the flames throughout the night. The fire was brought under control at approximately 3:30 A.M. and units remain on scene this morning.

Power, natural gas, and other utilities were shut down in the area of the fire due to the danger to firefighters. Streets in the area were also blocked during the firefighting efforts.

Klamath County Fire District No. 1 thanks the following agencies who aided in firefighting efforts; Kingsley Field Fire Department, Klamath County Fire District No. 4, City of Klamath Falls Police Department, Avisita Utilities, and Pacific Power and Light.

Due to the extensive damage, the investigation of the origin and cause of the fire will take several days to complete.

Klamath County Fire District No. 1 requests that the public avoid the fire area this weekend. Main Street between 3rd and 2nd Streets and Third Street between Main Street and Klamath Avenue will remain closed until the stability of the building is assured by an engineer. Recommended streets are Klamath Avenue, 1st Street, Payne Alley, 4th Street, and Pine Street.