

KEARNEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

Date of Fire 09 July 2025 Alarm Time 11:55 Under Control 00:44
Location of Fire #9 Kings Court Type of Emergency Structure Fire
Possible Cause Accidental Number of Firefighters 41
Number Type of Trucks 2 Engines, 1 Ladder, & 2 Utility
Occupant _____

Owner: James Rundstrom Address #9 Kings Court

Does residence have a smoke alarm(s)? Yes No Unknown Not Applicable

Was the smoke alarm(s) working? Yes No Unknown Not Applicable

If no, reason smoke alarm(s) were not working: Battery Dead Battery missing or disconnected

Hardwired detector unplugged or shut off Fire too small to activate detector Other

Details The Kearney Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) was dispatched to #9 Kings Court for the report of a structure fire. Upon arrival, heavy fire conditions were reported to the rear of structure. The structure was reported to be a two-story above grade structure with a basement. Law enforcement reported that all subjects who lived at this structure were reported to be out. KVFD crews initiated fire attack and primary search operations. The interior crews faced heavy fire conditions when they entered the structure. The fire was brought under control at 00:44. The Nebraska State Fire Marshal was requested to assist with the origin and cause investigation. The structure is uninhabitable due to extensive fire and smoke damage to the rear and interior of the home. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. However, preliminary results indicate that the fire was accidental and started as a result of an ember from a mosquito repelling stick falling onto or under the wooden deck located at the rear of the structure. There were four occupants and a dog in the structure at the time of the fire. All were able to evacuate the structure prior to the fire departments arrival. There were no injuries reported. The Red Cross was contacted to assist the displaced family. Other agencies who assisted at the scene were the Kearney Police Department, CHI Good Samaritan EMS, NPPD, and Northwestern Energy.