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**January 9, 2018**

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **EPFD Responds to a Fire on Crete Drive**

**EL PASO, Texas** – At approximately 8:38 a.m. on Monday January 8, 2018, the El Paso Fire Department was dispatched to the 10000 Block of Crete for a Condition 2 fire. The two occupants, an elderly woman and her wheelchair bound son, were alerted by one of their smoke detectors and evacuated. The woman went to get an extinguisher, but when she returned the fire was too big and she soon exited. A number of callers in the area also reported the house fire. The occupants self-evacuated and reported no injuries. Upon arriving on the scene at 8:43 a.m., crews saw heavy smoke and fire coming from the front of a single story home. Firefighters began to fight the fire.

Crews were able to knock down the bulk of the fire quickly and continued to fight the fire in the attic where it had spread. Additional crews performed an overhaul of the fire area. Estimated damages are \$50,000 at this time. The cause and origin of the fire is undetermined pending further investigation.

There were no injuries to firefighters, a total of 14 fire units and 33 personnel from the El Paso Fire Department responded to this incident. EP Electric and Texas Gas assisted fire crews on scene.

The El Paso Fire Department would like to remind the public that in less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and begin filling a home with thick, black, poisonous smoke. In just a few minutes, a home can become completely engulfed with flames. With the advance notice of a working smoke alarm, residents can escape with their lives. To request help with a home/work safety survey, escape plan or to inquire about smoke alarms, the public can call (915) 212-5699 or visit [www.elpasotexas.gov/fire-department/services](http://www.elpasotexas.gov/fire-department/services).

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