



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Seattle Field Division

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INVESTIGATION CONTINUES INTO SUSPICIOUS YAKIMA FIRE

YAKIMA, Wash. – Investigators from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Yakima Police and Fire Departments will continue their investigation into the fire at Baron Jacques Von Speyer Condominiums, where evidence points to a human act as being responsible, despite their inability to pinpoint an exact cause of the blaze because of extensive damage to the buildings.

“With the number of fires in the area, we will continue to work diligently with Yakima Fire and Police Departments to ascertain any possible connections between these fires,” aid ATF Special Agent in Charge Kelvin N. Crenshaw.

On July 5, ATF activated its National Response Team at the request of Yakima authorities to assist with the investigation into the fire at the condominiums, located at 2500 Racquet Lane. Police were initially alerted to the fire in the early morning hours of July 5 when an employee of a local business observed the fire, which destroyed two buildings and caused an estimated \$2.5 million dollars in damage. There were no injuries.

On July 6, investigators began a joint investigation into the cause and origin of the fire. The fire scene investigators examined the remains, reviewed photographic evidence and conducted numerous interviews during the course of their investigation.

The investigators completed processing the fire scene July 8 and it was released to Yakima Fire Department. The Yakima Police and Fire Departments, along with the Yakima ATF Office, are committed to pursuing every investigative lead related to this investigation and request that anyone with information about the fire contact 1-888-ATF-FIRE.

ATF is the federal law enforcement agency with jurisdiction for investigating major fires and crimes of arson. For more information on ATF and its programs, visit www.atf.gov.

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