



City of Yuma Fire Department
Press Release

Date: 5/31/2024

Subject: Commercial Fire – Sprinkler Save

Contact: David Padilla Jr, Public Information Officer

Release: ***For Immediate Release***

Around 5:30 a.m. on July 19th, 2024, crews from the Yuma Fire Department were dispatched to a report of a “water flow alarm” in the 300 block of West 32nd Street. Upon arrival, crews found a large furniture store with heavy smoke and water exiting from the front door. Firefighters were able to enter the structure and extinguish the fire quickly. It was discovered that a properly working fire sprinkler was able prevent any further damage to the building and its contents. No injuries were reported, and business operations were not disrupted.

Fire sprinkler systems can keep fires from spreading and can also extinguish them. Fire spreads quickly and can double in size every minute. Even small fires can cause significant property damage and endanger those nearby. Contrary to many Hollywood portrayals, only sprinkler heads directly exposed to the heat activate, not those in the rest of the room, building, or complex.

Yuma Fire Investigator discovered the fire’s area of origin of the fire was a shelf with lithium-ion batteries and a battery charging station. This is yet another call for service in which lithium-ion batteries have been involved. The Yuma Fire Department would like to remind everyone of the risks associated with these battery types.

Battery charging tips include:

- Use the provided or approved charger for the battery
- Do not use extension cords or overload surge protectors
- Do not use damaged or deformed batteries
- Keep batteries away from high temperatures, do not charge them if they are hot
- Remove the battery from the unit when done charging and do not cover the battery
- Do not keep batteries on a charger once the charging cycle is completed
- Keep the battery away from other combustibles

Fire sprinkler systems save lives and property.

##END##

David Padilla Jr
Public Information Officer
City of Yuma Fire Department
928-373-4865

Follow us at www.twitter.com/YumaFireDept www.instagram.com/yumafiredepartment/