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**Smoldering Fireworks Debris Causes
Home to Catch Fire**

Improperly disposed of fireworks debris is the likely culprit in an early morning fire that affected two homes in the 11800 block of Knobsby Way on San Antonio's far west side. Deputy Fire Marshals on special assignment patrol during the 4th of July holiday were the first to arrive on scene. They found a fence between two properties had caught fire and quickly extended up the sides of a house next to it and into the eaves. A second home was also exposed to the flames and had the fire travelling into the attic.

Bexar County Emergency Services Districts 2 and 7, as well as the Helotes Fire Department dispatched firefighters and equipment to the scene.

Both houses suffered significant damage from the fire. The garage roof of one of the homes collapsed.

Fire Marshal investigators determined that one of the residents had discarded leftover debris from fireworks they lit earlier that night without properly soaking it in water as recommended. The trash bin was then left next to the fence, where the debris ultimately reignited and set the bin on fire.

Bexar County Fire Marshal Chris Lopez reminds all residents to heed the advice offered each fireworks season. "Safe handling of fireworks includes the time after the show is done. Dunk the remains in a bucket of water and let it soak before you put them into the trash. That way you don't wake up to your house on fire."

The investigation is ongoing.

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