

EXHIBIT G

Seattle Fire Department Fire Investigator's Scene Report

DATE: 9/26/11
TIME: 06:04 HRS

SFD INC#: 11-089814
SPD INC#:

SEATTLE FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE INVESTIGATOR'S SCENE REPORT

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR	INVESTIGATOR	APPROVING OFFICER
INV S. W. OLSON F032/997	INV R. M. READY F005/997	

[1] Scene Investigation	[2] Area of Origin	[3] Source of Ignition
[4] Casualties	[5] Evidence	[6]

1. SCENE INVESTIGATION

Premise Description This fire occurred as a result of a natural gas explosion. The address of the event is 12312 5th Ave. NE. The house is situated on a unique street lay-out. Even though 5th Ave. runs in a north/south direction, there is a 300 ft. section of the avenue that extends east, perpendicular to the 5th Ave. There are two houses located on the north side of this extension, addressed as 12312 (the explosion site) and 12314 5th Ave. NE. See photo.



aerial satellite photo – dated 6-11-2010

For ease of understanding the viewing direction, when labeling photos in this document, this extension of 5th Ave. will be referred to as an “alley”. The rest of 5th Ave, which runs north/south as expected, will maintain its “avenue” designation. The south side of the extension is adjacent to the back yards of residences addressed on the north side of 123rd Ave. NE. At the time the information was gathered for this report, there was a minimum of 12 different residences that were affected by this explosion. The actual fire damage resulting from the explosion was mainly

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confined to the original residence, 12312 5th Ave. NE. This report will only provide preliminary damage observed to the other residences. Further detailed inspections by homeowners and their insurance agencies will undoubtedly uncover more extensive damage to the respective structures and property. There will most likely be some residences where damage was not visible/reported at the time of this initial investigation. Damages range from complete destruction (A) to the structure moved ajar from the foundation (M) to just broken windows (L). The photo below shows the initial reports of damaged structures.



- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. 12312 5 th Ave. NE | B. 12314 5 th Ave NE | C. 12320 5 th Ave. NE |
| D. 12345 8 th Ave. NE | E. 521 NE 124 th St. | F. 527 NE 124 th St. |
| G. 526 NE 124 th St. | H. 12316 5 th Ave. NE | I. 518 NE 123 rd St. |
| J. 522 NE 123 rd St. | K. 520 NE 124 th St. | L. 508 NE 124 th St. |
| M. 515 NE 124 th St. | | |

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This investigation will primarily address the fire at the initial residence "A" shown in the above photo. There were reports of this explosion being heard in Bothell and the percussive wave being felt on 36th Ave. NE. in the Lake City neighborhood which is approximately 2 miles away. The explosive damage to the home was extensive and upon arrival at the scene, all that was left standing was a portion of the garage which was also in the state of collapse. The roof and walls of the house were not in place with many portions being blown into surrounding yards. The pile of debris where the house was located was smoldering amidst various sections of the ground floor. The main floor (the floor itself) had also been blown in a downward motion, forcing large pieces of it into the crawl space beneath. Shortly after the explosion, the male occupant of the home heard his wife screaming for help and found her in the crawl space and suffering serious burns on a large part of her body. Fire crews could only apply hose streams to the garage and the pile of debris where the footprint of the house was. Everything else had been blown into neighboring yards. The roof was constructed of a thick, rolled tar paper material. A large portion of the roof was blown eastward into the yard of 12314 5th Ave. A section (approximately 3ft. X 6ft.) of the same roofing material was observed in a large tree about 75 feet off the ground on the north side of the home. There was no structure left to conduct an actual fire investigation. Investigators could only photograph and document some of the damage to the house and the surrounding area. The best and most logical way to convey the devastation of this explosion is to illustrate the damage with scene photographs. The next several following pages will contain photographs taken of the scene and accompanying descriptions.



1. Garage – looking northbound from alley



2. The remaining footprint of house ---> north

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3. west side of driveway – portions of interior walls



4. "alley" ->west – damage to s. neighbor fence



5. portion of roof – in east neighbor's yard-> NW



6. Debris blown into east neighbor's yard



7. alley- looking east



8. east neighbor – note large wall sections

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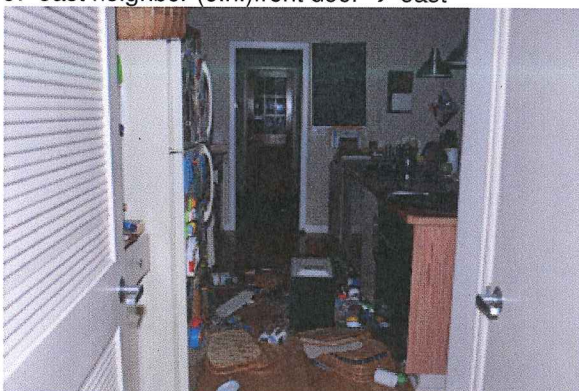
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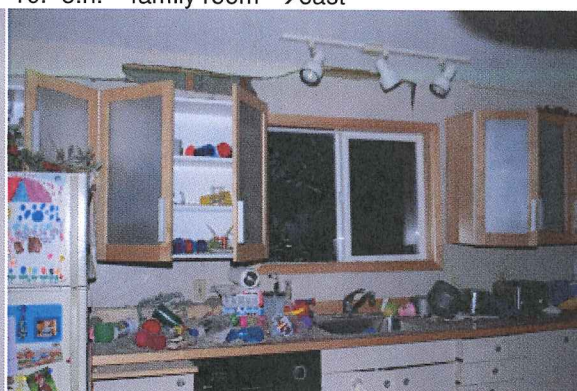
9. east neighbor (e.n.) front door → east



10. e.n. – family room → east



11. e.n. → north in kitchen – microwave on floor



12. east wall of kitchen – note visible studs



13. explosion site → west from e.n. yard



14. West exterior – 122345 8th Ave. NE.

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15. aerial view – looking west – slightly to south



16. aerial view – looking west – slightly north

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17. aerial view – debris blown into e.n. yard



18. roofing material- approx. 75 ft. from ground



19. aerial view of west neighbor – looking west



20. west side of garage – looking north



21. explosion site – from s.e.corner →n.w.



22. gas meter – s.e. corner of house →north

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The pictures displayed in this report do not completely record all the damage as homeowners in the immediate area discovered damage to their property in the days that followed. As mentioned earlier in this report, some homes suffered only broken windows while others were moved on their foundation and were deemed unsafe to live in. Puget Sound Energy has continued their investigation long after this initial fire investigation was conducted. The natural gas supply line comes to the house from the "alley" (the east/west extension of 5th Ave. NE) and runs along the east side of the foundation. The structure's gas meter was located at the southeast corner of the house along the east side. PSE crews excavated the dirt around the pipe and found signs of arcing and an actual hole in the pipe at the point where a metal sewer pipe made contact with it. The sewer line ran through the concrete foundation of the house and into the crawl space beneath the home. The crawl space is unique in that it was closed with no vent openings. The air in the crawl space was used as the cold air intake for the furnace. This could help in explaining how possibly the gas got into the house. It is theorized that the gas accumulated into the crawl space through the hole created in the gas line from electrical arcing. It was not determined exactly how the gas moved into the crawl space but it is theorized that it possibly could have moved through the opening created by the sewer line, which bore through the foundation. From there the gas was drawn into the home through the furnace cold air intake. During the night while the occupants were asleep the levels of natural gas in the home reached explosive levels. In the morning one of the occupants (the occupants are unclear on this point) possibly turned on a light switch which created a small electrical spark that set off the explosion. The day before the explosion, 09-25-11 at approximately 1427 hrs there was a reported electrical outage caused by a down power line in contact with a fallen tree. The tree root apparently became energized and caused some arcing with the adjacent natural gas line, causing a natural gas leak first detected at 913 NE 122nd St. Several other leaks were discovered in the area as the electricity ran through the gas pipeline grid and caused arcing. Of the four documented reports of arcing, three of those were discovered on the 09-25-11. The fourth leak caused by arcing was the site of the explosion, which occurred on 09-26-11 at approximately 06:04 hours. An aerial photo on the following page displays the approximate locations of where those leaks were discovered.

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At the time of this report Puget Sound Energy is still conducting tests and continuing their investigation. There is no further remarkable information to add in regards to the fire investigation. In summary the fire was caused by a large explosion form a natural gas leak, which was in turn caused by a downed power electrical power line that made contact with a large tree and somehow apparently conducted the electrical path down through the roots of the tree and onto

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the natural gas lines. Most of the house was blown away into the surrounding properties and the remainder of the house was mostly consumed in the resulting fire.

2. AREA OF ORIGIN

The area of origin of this fire is within the interior of the home. The exact location could not be determined due to the total devastation of the home.

3. SOURCE OF IGNITION

The source of ignition is most likely an electrical arc caused by the turning of a light switch.

4. CASUALTIES

The two adult occupants of the house (husband and wife) were transported to HMC via Seattle Medic Units. The wife was treated for burns for an estimated 40% of her body.

5. EVIDENCE

Digital scene photos were taken by Inv. R. Ready and uploaded to F.I.U. database.

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