



East Contra Costa Fire Protection District News Release

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For Immediate Release

East Contra Costa Fire Protection District Releases Fire Cause That Took A Man's Life Super Bowl Sunday

February 23, 2021 – The East Contra Costa Fire Protection District Fire responded to a boat fire just after 10:00 P.M. on February 07, 2021 on the 400 block of Riverview Place in Bethel Island.

Fire Marshal Steve Aubert stated, “Responding crews had a fully involved boat fire upon arrival and quickly began to extinguish the fire. After extinguishment, the vessel submerged at 1:30 A.M. on February 8, 2021.”

With the great efforts of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, the vessel was salvaged on February 10, 2021 at which time a 56-year-old male was recovered. According to the Contra Costa County Coroner's Office, the male victim's cause of death was due to smoke inhalation.

Upon further investigation from the East Contra Costa Fire Prevention Division, the origin and cause of the fire is believed to have started from the improper use of a portable space heater.

Fire Marshal Aubert further stated, “While the weather can be cold during this time of year, portable space heaters have very specific manufacture's specifications for use. These typically call for clearance requirements and safety protocols to safely operate one of these devices.”

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ABOUT THE EAST CONTRA COSTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:

The East Contra Costa Fire Protection District (ECCFPD) is a rural-funded fire district that currently operates 3 fire stations and has a 3-station deficit. The District protects a population of more than 128,000 across its 249 square-mile service area. ECCFPD provides firefighting personnel, emergency medical services (basic life support) and fire prevention to the residents and businesses of the cities of Brentwood and Oakley, and unincorporated communities of Discovery Bay, Bethel Island, Knightsen, Byron, Marsh Creek, and Morgan

Territory. **Learn more** at www.eccfpd.org or social media via Facebook (East Contra Costa Fire Protection District), Instagram(@east_contra_costa_fire), Twitter (@ECCFPD) or our YouTube channel (East Contra Costa Fire Protection District). ###