

**FREDERICK-FIRESTONE
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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STATEMENT FROM THE FREDERICK-FIRESTONE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District issued the following statement in connection with its investigation into the April 17 fire in Firestone, Colorado:

Since the April 17 incident at 6312 Twilight Ave in Firestone the Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District in conjunction with the Firestone Police Department, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, and several other assisting agencies, have been working with a top priority of ensuring the surrounding homes and residents are safe.

“We know the anxiety, fear and great sadness this tragedy has caused the Martinez and Irwin families and our community, especially those living in close proximity to the scene. We have and continue to proactively take every precaution to ensure the safety of the residents in surrounding homes. Due to the measures taken to date, we are confident that no hazards have gone beyond the investigation site,” said Fire Chief Theodore Poszywak. “I want to reiterate that the public’s safety is our primary concern and focus, and that we are working to ensure we are thorough in a multi-faceted investigation. For this reason, additional information of the events of April 17 will not be released until all of our investigative efforts have been concluded, resulting in a final cause and origin determination,” Poszywak continued.

These measures to which Chief Poszywak refers have included investigating the possible sources of the explosion and fire, in addition to the control, mitigation and elimination of any continued or secondary sources of fire. It is standard procedure to control and isolate all

utilities as a precautionary measure, not only for the safety of residents and adjacent properties, but for the safety of our first responders working onsite as well. Due to the extent of the reported explosion and damage, our scope in this incident included the well near the incident, as we worked to eliminate all possible hazards and ensure the safety of all surrounding residents and buildings.

Measures have been taken that include comprehensive monitoring of soil and air around and in adjacent areas to ensure there are no hazards that could affect the safety of the public or the investigators working on the site. As an added precaution, the Fire District also coordinated comprehensive tests on the adjacent well and active piping to rule out any possible leaking. Further precautionary measures have included ceasing production on the adjacent well until the investigation is complete.

Anadarko has been cooperating with these control and investigative measures to assist investigators in coming to a final determination of the origin and cause of the explosion and fire. As mentioned in Anadarko's news release on April 26, 2017, the company determined on their own to cease production, or "shut in" and inspect other wells as "an abundance of caution" until investigative efforts are complete. Anadarko's actions were not directed or requested by our investigators; however, its efforts to ensure public safety and reassure residents in our community are appreciated.

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ABOUT THE FREDERICK-FIRESTONE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District (FFFPD) is governed by an elected Citizen Board of Directors and provides fire suppression, emergency medical, specialized rescue, and fire protection, prevention and education services to residents and businesses within the Town of Frederick, the Town of Firestone and unincorporated portions of Weld County, Colorado. For more information about the Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District, please contact FFFPD Community Outreach Specialist Summer Campos at 303-833-2742 or by email at scampos@fffd.us. The Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District Business and Education Center is located at 8426 Kosmerl Place, in Frederick, Colo.