

PRESS RELEASE



County Council

3 March 2008

Somers Outraged by Maltby Area Arsons

County Council Chair Dave Somers expressed outrage today at what appear to be arson fires that destroyed three homes and damaged two others in the Quinn's Crossing development off Echo Lake Road in Snohomish County.

"Fire and police Investigators have our full support," said Somers. "Arson is a serious criminal offense, and whoever set these fires must be caught and fully prosecuted."

Somers, who is attending a National Association of Counties (NACo) meeting in Washington, D.C., said he was deeply shocked when he learned of the fires. News of the possible arsons, he said, raced through Washington state's NACo delegation.

"Thank God," he said, "that no one was hurt. I know now that the homes were unoccupied, but it looked like hundreds of firefighters were on the scene and anything could have happened."

County Councilmember Brian Sullivan said he was truly dismayed by these dangerous fires. "If the suspicions of arson prove accurate, it will only sadden me that senseless violence continues to be used in a nation of laws."

News reports put the estimated damage at about \$7 million. The Quinn's Crossing development was the site of the 2007 Street of Dreams, a luxury home promotion offered annually in Snohomish and King counties.

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