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City of Arlington Press Release

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Arlington Police Arrest Suspect for Fire that Destroyed Downtown Building

(Arlington, WA) – Detectives from the Arlington Police Department have arrested a 53 year-old woman from the Arlington area in connection with the Monday night fire that destroyed a commercial building at 229 N. Olympic Ave. in downtown Arlington. No one was injured in the fire or the efforts to extinguish it.

On the night of the fire, the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office responded to the fire scene to begin an investigation into the cause and origin of the fire. The Fire Marshal's Office estimated the building and contents loss at \$465,000. The Fire Marshal's office has ruled the cause of the fire to be "Intentional".

On the night of the fire, Arlington Police and Fire discovered that a small space at the rear of the building was being used as a residence, despite the fact the location is not permitted with the City of Arlington for such purposes. Arlington Police Detectives interviewed the tenant of that space the day after the fire and learned that he and the suspect, his estranged wife, had an argument earlier in the evening. She called her estranged husband approximately 15 minutes after the argument ended and threatened to burn down his residence.

Arlington Police Detectives obtained evidence that confirmed the suspect returned to the residence in a distinct vehicle just after 7:00 p.m. and left about five minutes later. The fire was discovered moments later.

The woman is being booked into the Snohomish County Jail on one count of arson in the first degree, domestic violence.

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