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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEVERE STORMS TRIGGER ACTIVATION OF OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN

Two lines of severe storm with high winds over 70mph causes Krum Fire to sound sirens throughout the night.

On the evening of June 20th the Krum Fire had cause to activate the Outdoor Warning System two separate times due to weather conditions.

The first storm that came through Denton County around 10 P.M. triggered multiple reports of Tornadoes in the area. Due to reports from both storm spotters and fire department personnel it was in the best interest of Krum visitor and resident to set our sirens off once the wind and possible tornado criteria had been met.

The Fire Department called in extra personnel in anticipation of the storms and provided continued monitoring of the storm as it entered the area from the west.

At 10:30 P.M. the Outdoor Warning System was set off and anyone still outdoors should have taken immediate shelter. While the sirens can be heard inside, we recommend that residents tune into local news and make sure their NOAA Weather Radio is on to receive the latest information from the National Weather Service during storms.

Later that night, a second line of storms again came from the west. The fire department again elected to activate the siren, on a recommendation from the NWS, due to wind speed readings in excess of 80 mph in the storm. Once that criterion had been met, the siren was sounded.

In order for the Outdoor Warning System (OWS) to be activated there are very specific criteria, set by the City of Krum Fire Department based on guidelines set by the North Central Texas Council of Governments, which must be met. The OWS Activation Criteria are:

- NWS issues a Tornado Warning or Severe Thunderstorm Warning with "Destructive winds in excess of 70 mph (or higher) are likely with this storm" for the immediate area.
- Trained storm spotters have reported a tornado
- Hail measuring 1.25 inches in diameter or greater
- Directed by the County Fire Marshall

Any questions regarding the Outdoor Warning System should be directed to Fire Chief Ken Swindle at (940)482-6257

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