



Palatine Fire Department

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Press Release

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Apartment Building Fire

846 W. Panorama Dr.

Incident # 2710

May 7, 2016

06:03 hours

On Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 6:03 a.m., the Palatine Fire Department was dispatched to a report of a fire at 846 W. Panorama Drive in Palatine. The first Palatine Fire Department crew arrived on the scene at 6:07 a.m. and reported a working fire on a second story balcony of the two story, 8 unit apartment building, with possible extension into the attic. The incident was upgraded to a working fire response, bringing additional fire crews to the scene. Firefighters initially pulled a hose line to the building and began an exterior attack to knock down the main body of fire, while other firefighters pulled a hose line through the main entrance of the building to the second floor to begin an aggressive interior attack. Firefighters performed a thorough search of the building to ensure that there were no trapped occupants. Firefighters removed drywall from the ceiling and some walls of the upper floor apartments to search for hidden fire in the attic and walls, and a hole was opened in the roof to ventilate smoke and fire gases that had accumulated in the attic space. The remaining fire was extinguished, and the incident was declared under control at 6:39 a.m. Firefighters remained on the scene for some time after that, ventilating smoke and fire gases from the entire apartment building and protecting contents of the building from water and smoke. The fire caused significant damage to several apartments which left the entire building untenable. The Red Cross was requested to the scene to assist the approximately 20 displaced occupants. No firefighters were injured in the fire, but 3 civilians were assessed by paramedics on the scene and did not require transport to a hospital. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release.

Palatine Fire Department investigators were on the scene and determined the cause of the fire to be accidental in nature. The fire was fought by 30 firefighters manning four engines, two ladder trucks, one rescue squad, and four ambulances along with 6 command officers. An ambulance and engine crew from the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District responded as part of an automatic mutual aid agreement, and an ambulance from the Long Grove Fire District stood by in a Palatine station in the event of any additional calls. Palatine Police officers assisted at the scene with security, traffic and crowd control.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds residents to always be careful when discarding smoking materials, and to have working smoke detectors on each level of your home and each bedroom. When you hear a fire alarm activate make sure you evacuate. Have, and practice, an escape plan and be prepared to use it if you discover a fire in your home.

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