



Palatine Fire Department

Chief Patrick Gratzianna
39 E. Colfax Street • Palatine, IL 60067-5297

Phone: (847) 202-6340
Fax: (847) 202-6320

Press Release

CONTACT: Battalion Chief Jim Sugrue

847.202.6328

Deputy Chief Anthony Lavacchi

847.202.6342

CONDOMINIUM FIRE

245 N. Smith St., Palatine, IL.

Incident # 23-00806

Saturday, February 4, 2023

0637 hours

On Saturday, February 4, 2023, at 6:37 a.m., the Palatine Fire Department responded to an automatic fire alarm at 245 N. Smith St. in Palatine. The response was upgraded to a structure fire based on a subsequent 911 call. The first Palatine Fire Department unit arrived on the scene four minutes from the initial alarm and reported smoke and fire coming from a second story window. The initial fire crews attempted to make a rescue from the second floor window, while other crews deployed hoselines to extinguish the fire. Fire crews searched the other units in the building for residents and fire extension. The fire was contained to the unit of origin and was declared under control at 7:10 a.m.

There was one civilian fatality as a result of this fire. No other civilians or firefighters were injured. Due to the quick actions by the Palatine Fire Department, there was no fire damage to the other five (5) units in this building. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release. The cause of the fire is being investigated by the Palatine Fire Department, Palatine Police Department and Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

The fire was fought by 39 firefighters, staffing five engines, two ladder trucks, one rescue squad and four ambulances, which responded to the scene along with seven command officers. In addition to the Palatine Fire Department, firefighters from the Rolling Meadows and Arlington Heights Fire Departments assisted at the scene. During the incident, a unit from the Long Grove Fire Protection District stood by at Palatine Fire Station 82 and provided coverage for any additional calls. Palatine Police officers assisted at the scene with traffic and crowd control.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds everyone to have working smoke detectors in their homes, whether a single-family dwelling, an apartment, or a condo. This fire was detected by a working smoke detector which provided early warning for the building's residents. Working smoke alarms save lives. Inspect and test your smoke alarms today. For more information on fire safety visit <https://www.nfpa.org/> or <https://www.palatine.il.us/>.

#