



Palatine Fire Department

Fire Chief Scott Mackeben
1475 N. Hicks Road • Palatine, IL 60074

Phone: (847) 202-6340

Fax: (847) 202-6320
www.Palatine.IL.US

Press Release

Contact: Battalion Chief Keith VonderHeide
847.202.6328

Deputy Chief Matt Buzzard
847.202.6343

House Fire

238 N. Oak Street, Palatine, IL

Incident #25-04079

Monday, December 15, 2025

18:17 hours

On Monday, December 15, 2025, at 6:17 p.m., the Palatine Fire Department responded to 238 N. Oak Street in Palatine for the report of a house fire. A resident of the home noticed smoke coming from the basement, called 911, and then ensured everyone was out of the home, including 2 dogs. The first Palatine Fire Department unit arrived one minute after the initial alarm and reported smoke coming from the front of the house. The alarm was upgraded to a structure fire response. Fire crews quickly deployed a hose line through the front door of the house and located the fire in the basement. Additional crews initiated a primary search, utilizing thermal imaging cameras to search for the fire. All residents were accounted for on the fire department's arrival. The fire extended up through the walls and into the attic/roof of the home. When the fire had been extinguished, crews performed salvage and overhaul to protect property and search for further fire extension. The fire was declared under control at 6:57 p.m. No firefighters or civilians were injured in the fire.

Palatine Fire Department Investigators are currently investigating the cause of the fire and believe it to be accidental.

The fire was fought by 28 firefighters staffing five engines, one ladder truck, one rescue squad, and three ambulances that responded to the scene along with six command officers. The Rolling Meadows Fire Department also provided crews that assisted in extinguishing the fire. During the incident, a Long Grove Ambulance stood by at Palatine Fire Station 82 to cover 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. For more information on fire safety, visit <https://www.palatine.il.us/431/Public-Education>

###