

Palatine Fire Department

Incident Press Release



For Immediate Release
April 9, 2012

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2160 N. Oak Brook Circle Laundry Room Fire

On Monday, April 9 at 2:20 p.m., the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of a fire in the laundry room at 2160 N. Oak Brook Circle in Palatine. The first Palatine Fire Department crews arrived on the scene in 7 minutes and reported light smoke showing from the 2-story, 4-unit condominium building. The first fire companies encountered a considerable amount of smoke when they entered the second-floor fire unit, with fire showing from the laundry room. An aggressive interior attack was initiated with a 1 ¾" hose line and the fire was brought under control in less than five minutes after the arrival of the fire department, before the fire could involve the rest of the unit. The unit was simultaneously searched to confirm that the unit was unoccupied.

There was one resident at home at the time of the fire who evacuated prior to Fire Department arrival, being warned of the fire by the activation of the smoke detectors in the unit. Palatine Police officers assisted residents prior to the arrival of the Fire Department. No civilians, Firefighters, or Police officers were injured during this incident.

25 firefighters, staffing three engines, three ladder trucks, one rescue squad and three ambulances responded to the scene, along with four command officers. One of the engines, from the Arlington Heights Fire Department, and one ambulance, from the Long Grove Fire Protection District, responded under automatic aid agreements. An upgraded response was requested early in the incident due to the report of a spreading fire in a multiple-family occupancy coupled with the high winds present at the time of the fire. The unit where the fire originated had minor damage that was contained to the laundry room, and the unit remained tenable for the five occupants. The remaining units of the building sustained no damage. Damage to the structure and contents was estimated at a total of \$3,000.

The fire was determined to be accidental, originating in the clothes dryer.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds everyone to have working smoke detectors in their homes, and to be sure to keep their dryers and dryer vents clear of lint build-up.

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