

Palatine Fire Department

Incident Press Release

For Immediate Release
May 8, 2011

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404 E. Dundee Rd. Commercial Fire

On Sunday, May 8, 2011 at 1:53 p.m., the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of a fire in the back room of the Speedway gas station at 404 E. Dundee Rd. The first Palatine Fire Department unit arrived on the scene less than 3 minutes later and found smoke in the back storage room of the gas station, with customers already evacuated by the staff. The first crew pulled a 1 ¾" hose line to attack the fire, which by that time was also being controlled by an automatic sprinkler system. Other crews arriving on the scene pulled an additional hose line, secured a water supply, laddered the building's roof, ventilated smoke and fire gases and provided emergency medical stand-by. The fire was declared under control less than ten minutes after the Fire Department's arrival. There were no injuries from the fire.

19 members of the Palatine Fire Department along with crews from the Arlington Heights Fire Department responded to the scene, staffing three engines, two ladder trucks, one rescue squad and three ambulances. Two command officers and one fire investigator also responded. Palatine Police were on scene providing traffic control. Hicks Road was briefly shut down in both directions north of Dundee Rd. due to hoses being stretched across the road to the nearest hydrant.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation, and damage estimates are not yet available.

The Palatine Fire Department would like to emphasize that automatic sprinkler systems, whether in commercial or residential installations, are your best defense against fire. They not only sound an alarm when activated, but actively control the fire at its source until the arrival of the Fire Department. Activated by heat, the only sprinkler heads that operate are in the immediate fire area, confining the fire and limiting the amount of smoke, heat and gases produced, protecting not only property but lives as well.

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