



# Palatine Fire Department

## Incident Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

**March 31, 2008**

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### **1848 N. Goodwin Drive Apartment Fire**

On Monday March 31, 2008 at 4:52 p.m. the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of black smoke coming from an apartment at 1848 N. Goodwin Drive in Palatine's Winchester Hill Apartments. The first units arrived on the scene within 6 minutes of the call and found heavy smoke in the hallway of the second floor. The crew entered the three-story, six-unit structure to search for possible victims and for the exact location of the fire. The initial crews used a 1 ¾" hose line to extinguish the fire in the affected second-floor unit while other crews performed search and rescue of the adjoining units, water supply, salvage and overhaul, EMS, safety and support functions. Crews also inspected adjacent units, as well as the units above for any fire extension using thermal imaging cameras. There were no injuries reported to occupants or firefighters; however a pet guinea pig was rescued by the crews and treated with oxygen by firefighters. A pet bird succumbed to the smoke. The fire was declared under control at 5:07 p.m.

A total of 22 firefighters manning four engines, one ladder truck, a rescue squad and two ambulances were on the scene, along with 5 command officers and 2 investigators. Officers from the Palatine Police Department also assisted with evacuating the fire building as well as neighboring buildings. Unit 2B, in which the fire started, was left uninhabitable for the residents, but it is expected that residents in the rest of the building will be able to return to the building this evening. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release, and the cause of the fire remains under investigation. Units from the Arlington Heights Fire Department assisted the Palatine Fire Department at this incident under an automatic aid agreement.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds residents of the importance of never re-entering a building that has fire or smoke in it. Even small amounts of toxic smoke can be deadly; once you're out, stay out and call the Fire Department. For more information, contact our Public Education Office at (847) 202-6302.

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