



Palatine Fire Department

Incident Press Release

For Immediate Release

February 5, 2008

Contacts:	Lieutenant Jim Conn (847) 202-6628 - Office (847) 202-6620 - Fax (847) 202-6340 - Headquarters	Captain Doug Hoyt (847) 202-6302 - Office (847) 202-6621 - Fax (847) 202-6340 - Headquarters
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121 W. Robertson St., Palatine Apartment Fire

On Tuesday, February 05, 2008 at 2:59 p.m. the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of a garage fire behind 123 W. Roberson St. The first units arrived on the scene in less than 3 minutes and found flames and heavy smoke pushing out of the front windows of an apartment on the second floor of a 2-story garage. The adult male occupant of the apartment had evacuated prior to the arrival of the fire department. The first-arriving fire crew stretched a 2 1/2" hoseline to knock down the fire and protect a neighboring garage, while another crew pulled a 1 3/4" hoseline up the outside stairs to enter the apartment. Other crews broke windows to release heat and smoke, searched the house for additional occupants and checked for fire extension, while still others conducted salvage, emergency medical and rapid intervention operations. The fire was controlled within ten minutes of the Fire Department's arrival. There was very significant fire, heat and smoke damage throughout the apartment, which was left untenable. The occupant was treated on the scene by Palatine Fire Department paramedics for smoke inhalation, and was transported to Northwest Community Hospital in stable condition.

A total of 24 firefighters manning three engines, two ladder trucks, one rescue squad and three ambulances were on the scene, along with 7 command officers and two fire investigators. Palatine Police officers on the scene assisted with traffic control. Damage estimates are unavailable at the time of this release, and the fire remains under investigation by Palatine Fire Department investigators.

The Palatine Fire Departments reminds residents to make sure they have smoke detectors, and to test the detectors to ensure they are in proper working condition. If you notice a fire in your dwelling, get out immediately and stay out. Do not re-enter to try to save belongings or pets. If you have any questions, please call the Palatine Fire Department Public Education Division at (847) 202-6302.

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