



Palatine Fire Department

Incident Press Release

For Immediate Release

February 24, 2007

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1485 N. Winslowe Dr. Apartment Building Fire with Multiple Rescues

On Saturday, February 24, 2007 at 12:21 a.m. the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of a fire in the building at 1485 N. Winslowe Dr. in the Brentwood Condominiums. The first units arrived on the scene at 12:26 a.m. and found heavy smoke pushing out from a broken out window in the front foyer, and occupants outside reporting numerous people still trapped inside the building. As firefighters entered the building to search they encountered heavy smoke and heat in the hallways. Other crews raised ladders to remove trapped occupants from second- and third-floor balconies from the 3-story, 12-unit building. In all, seven adults and one child were rescued by firefighters, and two additional children were rescued by Palatine Police officers and a civilian, who was unidentified. One dog was rescued by firefighters, and several other pets were removed by their owners. There were no injuries reported to occupants or firefighters. All rescue activities were completed within 10 minutes of the first units' arrival, and the fire was under control at 12:39 a.m.

A total of 21 firefighters manning two engines, two ladder trucks, a rescue squad and three ambulances were on the scene, along with 3 command officers and several investigators from the Palatine Police and Fire departments. One ambulance from Arlington Heights responded under a mutual aid agreement. Major damage, preliminarily estimated at \$25,000, was confined to common areas, and residents were allowed back into their units. The fire remains under investigation by Palatine Fire and Palatine Police Department investigators, and the cause initially appears to be suspicious in nature.

The Palatine Fire Department wants to stress the importance of having two ways out of a living unit. Have a plan for what to do in case fire or smoke blocks your primary way out. If you have questions, please call the Palatine Fire Department Public Education Division at (847) 202-6302.

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