



# Palatine Fire Department

## Incident Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

**March 30, 2007**

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### **1320 East Inverrary Lane, Palatine Attached Garage Fire**

On Friday, March 30, 2007 at 3:43 a.m. the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of an attached garage fire in a 4-unit Coach Home at 1320 East Inverrary Lane. The first units arrived on the scene at 3:48 a.m. and found a large amount of fire showing from the attached garage, and heavy heat and smoke inside the unit. Six occupants were home at the time of the fire; they had all evacuated prior to the fire department's arrival along with the occupants in the adjacent units. There were a total of 18 occupants that were evacuated with the assistance of the Palatine Police Department. The first-arriving fire crews stretched a 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " hoseline and quickly extinguished the fire. Other crews performed a primary and secondary search of the fire unit and adjacent units for occupants and checked for fire extension. The fire was controlled within eleven minutes of the Fire Department's arrival and was confined to the attached garage it originated in. Four Children, ranging in ages from 5 years to 13 years, were treated on the scene for minor smoke inhalation by Palatine Paramedics and transported to Northwest Community Hospital for further evaluation.

A total of 18 firefighters manning three engines, one ladder truck, two ambulances and one squad were on the scene, along with 4 command officers and one fire investigator. One engine from Arlington Heights responded under a mutual aid agreement. Damage was preliminarily estimated at \$150,000.00. The fire was confined to the attached garage however the residence received a large amount of heat and smoke damage and remains untenable. The three other units in the building which sustained minor smoke damage and were tenable. The fire appears to be accidental, and remains under investigation by Palatine Fire Department investigators.

Damage in this fire could have been greatly diminished if the door leading from the attached garage to the residence was closed by the occupant. The occupant opened the door to the garage, discovered the

fire and left the door open which allowed the heat and smoke from the fire enter into the unit. The Palatine Fire Department wants to stress the importance of closed doors in limiting fire and smoke damage. Especially when sleeping, closed doors can help buy time to escape from a fire. If you have any questions, please call the Palatine Fire Department Public Education Division at (847) 202-6302.

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