

Palatine Fire Department

Incident Press Release

For Immediate Release
May 15, 2006

Contacts: Battalion Chief Randy Freise
847 202 6628
847 202 6620- Fax
847 202 6340- Headquarters

Lieutenant Doug Hoyt
847 202 6302
847 202 6620 - Fax
847 202 6340- Headquarters

833 W. Hillside Street House Fire

On Monday, May 15, 2006, at 1:49 a.m., the Palatine Fire Department responded to a report of a house on fire in the 800 block of W. Hillside St, called in by a passer-by. The first crew arrived on the scene within 5 minutes and reported a fully-involved single family house. The first engine crew used two 1 ¾" hose lines to attack the fire. The second- and third-in crews laid a supply line from a hydrant on Quentin Rd. and assisted in the attack, which was hampered by the heavy fire conditions. Other crews provided overhaul, EMS, safety and support functions. Due to the large volume of fire, crews initially had to attack the fire from outside, and then entered as conditions allowed in order to complete a search of the structure. The fire was under control within thirty minutes of the Fire Department's arrival. The fire caused very heavy damage throughout the house.

Crews from the Palatine, Palatine Rural and Rolling Meadows Fire Departments responded to this fire under mutual response agreements between the departments. A total of 19 firefighters, 5 command and administrative staff members and 1 fire investigator were on the scene, with additional assistance received from the Palatine Police Dept. Damage is initially estimated at \$400,000. No one was home at the time of the fire, and there were no injuries reported. At the time of this release the cause of the fire is under investigation.

The Palatine Fire Department supports the installation of residential sprinkler systems, which will automatically attack a fire while it is still in its early stages. Since the systems are heat-activated, only the head(s) in the area of the fire will discharge water, protecting residents in other rooms of the house, as well as the structure itself, whether anyone is at home or not.

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