



Palatine Fire Department

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Press Release

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TOWNHOUSE FIRE

**1184 E. Cunningham Dr., Palatine, IL
Incident # 7707
December 31, 2017
8:06 p.m.**

On Sunday, December 31, 2017, at 8:06 p.m., the Palatine Fire Department was called to respond to multiple reports of a fire in a townhouse. The first Palatine Fire Department crews arrived on the scene at 8:12 p.m. and reported flames blowing out windows on the second floor of a vacant, end unit in a four-unit townhouse building. Firefighters from the first fire company pulled a hose line from their engine and knocked down the visible fire from the exterior and another fire crew pulled a second hose line into the unit to aggressively attack the fire from the interior. Other fire companies performed a search of the home to confirm that there were no occupants and to locate any hidden fire, while still others laddered the building and ventilated smoke and fire gases. Additional crews accessed the other adjoining townhouses to ensure there was no fire extension into those units. The fire was declared under control at 8:26 p.m. Firefighters continued to perform salvage and overhaul activities for some time after that.

No civilians or firefighters were injured in the fire, which caused heavy damage to the townhouse and left it untenable. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release. Palatine Fire Department investigators are still working to determine the cause of the fire.

Due to the extreme cold temperatures, the initial amount of fire and the nature of the attached dwellings, additional fire crews responded to the incident. The fire was fought by 29 firefighters, staffing four engines, two ladder trucks, two rescue squads, and four ambulances which responded to the scene along with six command officers. Units from the Arlington Heights Fire Department assisted at the scene, and an ambulance from the Long Grove Fire Protection District stood by in a Palatine Fire Station to assist with additional calls during this incident. Palatine Police officers assisted at the scene with traffic and crowd control.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds everyone that working smoke alarms save lives. Make sure that your smoke alarms are tested monthly and less than 10 years old. For more fire safety information visit www.palatine.il.us and search key words "fire safety" or www.nfpa.org.

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