



Palatine Fire Department

Chief Scott Andersen
39 E. Colfax Street • Palatine, IL 60067-5297

Phone: (847) 202-6340
Fax: (847) 202-6320

Press Release

CONTACT: Battalion Chief Anthony Lavacchi
847.202.6328
Deputy Chief Patrick Gratianna
847.202.6342

Condominium Fire

524 E. Spruce Drive #3A, Palatine, IL

Incident # 6521

November 1, 2019

4:57 p.m.

On Friday, November 1, 2019, at 4:57 p.m., the Palatine Fire Department was called for black smoke coming from a three-story condominium building located at 524 E. Spruce Drive. The first Palatine Fire Department crews arrived on the scene at 4:59 p.m. and found smoke coming from the roof. A hose line was pulled and advanced to the third floor where fire companies discovered an attic fire in unit #3A. The fire crews quickly began removing walls and ceilings in the unit to expose the hidden fire. The fire was extinguished and most of the damage was confined to the fire unit with some water damage to the units directly below. Additional fire companies performed searches of the building for any trapped occupants and to locate any other hidden fire. Firefighters, with the assistance of Palatine Police officers, stretched a supply line to a nearby fire hydrant while other firefighters performed support functions. The fire was declared under control at 5:15 p.m. Firefighters continued to perform salvage, overhaul, and investigative activities for some time after that.

No civilians or firefighters were injured in the fire which was contained to one condominium unit. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release. Palatine Fire Department investigators have determined the cause of the fire to be accidental, and electrical in nature.

Thirty-two firefighters responded to the scene manning four engines, three ladder trucks, four ambulances, and two rescue squads. The fire was fought by twenty-seven firefighters and supported by three command officers and three fire investigators. Units from the Arlington Heights Fire Department were among the initial responders to the scene as part of an automatic aid agreement. An ambulance from the Fox River 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 resident evacuation, traffic control, and fire investigation.

The place where we feel the safest, at home, is where most fire injuries and fire-related deaths occur. Working smoke alarms are the best defense against being injured in a home fire. According to the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), all homes should have working smoke alarms in and outside each sleeping area and on each floor of the residence. The NFPA also recommends that smoke alarms be tested monthly. Smoke alarms save lives. Make sure your smoke alarms are working and are less than 10 years old. For more information on smoke alarms and fire safety visit www.palatine.il.us or www.nfpa.org/education.

###