



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 Doug Hoyt
847.202.6328
Deputy Chief William Gabrenya
847.202.6343

STRUCTURE FIRE

1151 E. Dundee Rd, Palatine, IL

Incident # 6375

October 25, 2016

15:55 hours

On Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 3:55 p.m., the Palatine Fire Department was called to an activated fire alarm at the Sonic Drive-In, 1151 E. Dundee Rd. in Palatine. The first Palatine Fire Department crew arrived on the scene at 3:59 p.m. and found welders working on the exterior of the building. The crew entered the building to investigate, and found smoke inside the building. The incident commander upgraded the call to a structure fire response, and crews continued to investigate the location and extent of the fire. Firefighters located a fire in a void space inside an exterior wall, extending up the space toward the roof. Fire crews working from ground level, on ladders and on the roof had a difficult time accessing the fire, and had to open interior walls and ceiling and breach exterior walls to fully expose and extinguish the fire, which was controlled with two hose lines. Other crews provided a water supply, laddered the building and provided for emergency medical coverage. The fire was under control at 4:18 p.m., although firefighters remained on the scene to ventilate smoke and gases and perform extensive overhaul activities for some time after that.

No civilians or firefighters were injured in the fire, and damage was contained to a corner of the restaurant. Store employees had evacuated the building when the fire alarm activated. An inspector from the Village of Palatine Health Department also responded to assess the damage inside the restaurant, which remains closed until repairs and clean-up are completed. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release, and the fire remains under investigation by Palatine Fire Department investigators.

The fire was fought by 27 firefighters, staffing four engines, two ladder trucks, one rescue squad and four ambulances which responded to the scene along with three command officers and two Fire Investigators. Units from the Arlington Heights Fire Department and the Lake Zurich Fire District were among the responders to the scene as part of an automatic aid agreement. During the incident, a unit from the Long Grove Fire Department stood by in a Palatine fire station to provide coverage for any additional calls. Palatine Police officers assisted at the scene with traffic and crowd control.

The Palatine Fire Department reminds everyone to note the location of exits in public buildings, which may not necessarily be the same as the door they entered. If you hear a fire alarm sound, evacuate the building until you receive an "all clear" to return.

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