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## **Palatine Fire Department**

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# Press Release

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### **STRUCTURE FIRE**

**920 East Northwest Highway**  
**Vacant 5-Story Hotel (Previously Hotel Bollero)**  
**Incident # 1175**  
**February 26, 2015**  
**05:16 hours**

On Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 5:16 a.m., the Palatine Fire Department was dispatched to an activated fire alarm at 920 East Northwest Highway in Palatine. The first Palatine Fire Department crews arrived on the scene at 5:22 a.m. and reported thick, black smoke coming from the first floor hallway of the vacant five-story hotel. The first fire companies pulled a 2 ½ inch hose line and aggressively attacked the fire from the interior, while other firefighters stretched a supply line to a fire hydrant. Fire crews began a systematic search of the building including all floors and stairwells. Fire crews had to open walls in the fire room to expose the fire for extinguishment. The fire was declared under control at 05:49 a.m. Firefighters continued to ventilate smoke and fire gases and perform salvage and overhaul activities for some time after that.

No civilians or firefighters were injured in the fire, which caused extensive damage to one room in the hotel. Damage estimates are not available at the time of this release, and the fire remains under investigation by Palatine Fire Department investigators. The hotel is currently under extensive renovation and was not occupied at the time of the fire.

The fire was fought by 26 firefighters, staffing four engines, two ladder trucks, one rescue squad and three ambulances which responded to the scene along with four command officers and two Fire Investigators. A unit from the Arlington Heights Fire Department was among the initial 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 treat all fire alarm activations seriously and evacuate until the fire department gives the all clear. Have an escape plan, practice it, and be prepared to use it in the event of any fire.

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