



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

On Friday, February 27, 2015 at 5:59 a.m., the Park Ridge Fire Department responded to a call in the 100 block of N. Delphia Avenue for the smell of smoke in the home. The Fire Department was on the scene in less than five minutes and the Battalion Chief noticed a strong odor of smoke in the area. While crews entered the home on Delphia Avenue, one crew was sent to Lincoln Avenue to check for any fire source upwind. Shortly thereafter, one crew saw heavy smoke coming from a single family residence in the 100 block of N. Lincoln. All fire apparatus responded to the structure fire on Lincoln and began an interior attack of the fire. Additional crews went into the structure to perform a primary search of the home to check for victims. They had a thermal imaging camera which allowed them to see through the heat and smoke and noticed the house appeared to be under renovation with a large hole in the floor of the first floor. Due to the safety hazards inside the structure and the appearance that the home was unoccupied, the decision was made to make a defensive attack of the fire with crews only working outside the structure. The Incident Commander upgraded the alarm to a Code 4, which brought resources from additional fire departments to the scene. Additionally, fire crews from other municipalities were assigned to each Park Ridge fire station to ensure coverage of the City for any subsequent emergency calls.

Once the fire was extinguished, crews were assigned to overhaul and ventilation. Crews continued with overhaul trying to locate any hidden fire in the walls and ceilings. The fire was found to have started in the dining room and burned through the floor. There was fire damage in the dining room and adjoining areas of the structure, and smoke and water damage throughout the home. Once all fire activities were completed, the home was turned back over to the owners.

The fire loss is estimated to be approximately \$150,000. Park Ridge Fire Department investigators have completed their initial investigation and, at this point, believe the fire was accidental in nature.

The Park Ridge Fire Department was assisted at the scene or through station coverage by companies from the Niles, Rosemont, Des Plaines, Morton Grove Fire, Wheeling, and Elk Grove Fire Departments and the Norwood Park and North Maine Fire Protection Districts.

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