



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

On Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7:25 p.m., the Park Ridge Fire Department (PRFD) was dispatched to 2400 Windsor Mall for an activated fire alarm. PRFD crews arrived in five minutes and saw visible flames in the window of a second floor unit, so the fire was upgraded to a working fire incident. When the initial attack crew saw the smoke conditions on the fire floor they relayed those conditions to the Incident Commander who upgraded the fire to a box alarm due to the potential for numerous rescues in this building based upon the time of day and the age of some residents. These upgrades call for additional mutual aid fire department resources to be dispatched to the scene, and also provide for backup coverage at both PRFD stations so that crews are available to handle any overlapping emergency calls while PRFD units are committed to the fire.

Crews were able to stop the fire in the room of origin before it could spread to the rest of the unit or the hallway. While this was taking place, additional crews walked door to door on each floor to ensure all other residents were out of the building. Crews were able to assist a few residents that needed help moving to the outside and over to neighboring building lobbies to stay out of the cold. Once the fire was out, Park Ridge and mutual aid companies checked for any fire extension in the building and worked to ventilate the smoke out of the unit and the rest of the building.

There were no injuries to any residents or fire personnel. The building's fire alarm system worked effectively to alert the residents to the fire so they could all safely evacuate from the building. Preliminary investigation indicates that the fire was determined to be accidental in nature. The cause of the fire is electrical in origin and still under investigation. Damage in the unit is estimated to be \$20,000.

Mutual aid assistance was provided at the fire by the Des Plaines, Niles, North Maine, Chicago, Rosemont and Elk Grove Village Fire Departments.