
PRESS RELEASE

MUSCATINE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Safety Building, 312 E. 5th Street, Muscatine, Iowa 52761
563.263.9233

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 27, 2019

FIREFIGHTERS QUICKLY CONTAIN APARTMENT FIRE

Occupants and pets evacuated safely during Tuesday morning blaze

MUSCATINE, Iowa – No injuries were reported in a structure fire Tuesday morning (Aug. 27) that heavily damaged one of the three apartments. The Muscatine Joint Communications Center (MUSCOM) received a 911 call at approximately 9:11 a.m. Tuesday of a structure fire at 1510 Hershey Avenue, Muscatine.

Emergency personnel initially were uncertain if any of the occupants were in the house at the time the fire was reported. The residence that had been converted into a three unit apartment building with two of the units occupied. Those occupants were quickly evacuated and accounted for.

A dog was taken from a downstairs apartment and two cats were also later taken out unharmed.

The fire was found on the second floor, and had ventilated through a window on the east side of the house prior to fire department arrival. Fire attack crews were able to get the fire under

control within a few minutes and remained on scene checking for hot spots for about another hour.

Fire investigators took over the scene and remained on site until about 4:15 p.m. One room had heavy fire damage on the second floor and there was smoke staining throughout the upper floor apartment. The other two units had minor water damage and smoke damage.

Approximately five residents lived in the two occupied units, and they were offered assistance by the American Red Cross. No civilians were injured and no responders sustained any injury either.

The on scene investigation is complete, but no cause has been determined at this time. The fire and smoke loss estimate is approximately \$50,000 to the structure and contents.

The Muscatine Fire Department was assisted by the Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department and the Muscatine Police Department. Approximately 20 fire fighters responded, including off duty personnel.

About the Muscatine Fire Department:

The Muscatine Fire Department provides fire and emergency medical services, rescues (high angle, rope, water, etc.), building inspections, and public education for the City of Muscatine, and the surrounding unincorporated areas of Muscatine County with a combined population of 43,000 across 145 square miles while also providing HAZMAT for Muscatine, Louisa, Washington, Keokuk, and Henry counties. MFD firefighters and paramedics responded to 5,027 calls in 2018. The Muscatine Fire Department began as a volunteer fire company on January 7, 1875 and was established as a full-time department in January 1916. The Muscatine Fire Department ambulance service received the 2012 Career Ambulance service of the Year Award from Iowa Emergency Medical Services.



CITY OF MUSCATINE
215 SYCAMORE STREET
MUSCATINE, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550 • FAX (563) 264-0750

Prepared by:

Mike Hartman, Fire Marshal

mhartman@muscatineiowa.gov

563-263-9233

Kevin Jenison, Communication Manager

E-Mail: kjenison@muscatineiowa.gov | Phone: (563) 264-1550 • Fax: (563) 264-0750