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## FIRE DEPARTMENT

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JANUARY 5, 2021**

## EARLY MORNING FIRE IN INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX IS EXTINGUISHED

*Damaged contained to machinery, related ductwork during Tuesday morning fire*

**MUSCATINE, Iowa** – It was a cold start to the morning for members of the Muscatine Fire Department who quickly extinguished a fire in an industrial building today (Jan. 5, 2021).

The Muscatine Joint Communications Center (MUSCOM) received a 911 call at 5:24 a.m. Tuesday of a fire at 4907 55th Avenue West. The building involved is an industrial building that recycles glass.



*Muscatine firefighters work a machine fire inside a glass recycling building in Progress Park Tuesday morning.*

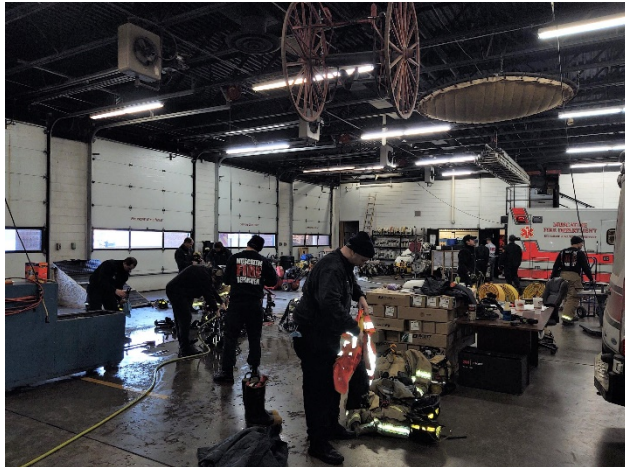
Upon arrival crews found smoke coming from the upper floor of the building and all occupants already evacuated. The fire was found inside machinery and was contained to the machines and related ductwork. The total initial loss estimate is \$30,000. Due to the location of the fire and the need to remove access panels it took about an hour to bring the fire under control.

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"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any on either side of the ocean that equaled them" – Mark Twain

The on scene investigation was completed and the initial cause was listed as accidental. The area outside the building was covered with extensive ice buildup due to the recent storm.

There were no injuries to any responders or occupants. An estimated 18 fire fighters including off duty staff responded and automatic mutual aid assistance from the Fruitland Fire Department. The Muscatine Police Department provided support as well.



*The long process of cleaning equipment and preparing for the next call was completed in Station 1 after crews returned to quarters following Tuesday mornings fire.*

### **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 5,238 calls in 2019. 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.

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