



City of Muscatine Fire Department
312 East 5th Street
Muscatine, Iowa 52761
Phone: 563-263-9233 Fax: 563- 263-5534
Jerry Ewers, Fire Chief



PRESS RELEASE

For more information contact:

Gary Ronzheimer
Battalion Chief
Public Safety Building
312 E. 5th Street
Muscatine, Iowa 52761
gronzheimer@muscatineiowa.gov
(563) 263-9233

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 29, 2023

LATE NIGHT FIRE FOUGHT BY MULTIPLE AGENCIES

Three individuals, cat escaped unharmed from house fire Friday night

MUSCATINE, Iowa – Three individuals and one cat were able to escape unharmed following a late night fire at their residence Friday night according to the Muscatine Fire Department.

The Muscatine Joint Communications Center (MUSCOM) received a 911 call at 10:32 p.m. Friday (July 28) of a residence at 2027 Lucas Street that had smoke in their basement. MUSCOM dispatched Muscatine and Fruitland Fire Departments to the scene.

Upon arrival firefighters found an active fire in the basement. The fire spread to the attic from the basement due to the construction of the home. The fire in the basement was knocked down but it took several more hours for the fire to be brought under control in the attic and second story.

Kevin Jenison, Communications Manager, City of Muscatine, Muscatine, Iowa
Email: kjenison@muscatineiowa.gov | Phone: 563-264-1550 ext. 166



City of Muscatine Fire Department
312 East 5th Street
Muscatine, Iowa 52761
Phone: 563-263-9233 Fax: 563- 263-5534
Jerry Ewers, Fire Chief



The fire was declared under control around 12:20 a.m. Fire personnel focused on hot spots and salvage operations of belongings until around 2:15 a.m. The home was under normal use and occupied at the time by three people and one cat who were all able to get out and are doing well.

Battalion Chief Gary Ronzheimer said that the Muscatine Fire Department is extremely grateful for the mutual aid assistance by multiple fire departments in the area including Fruitland, Wilton, Blue Grass, and multiple off duty MFD personnel. A total of 34 personnel responded to the fire. The American Red Cross is assisting the family.

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 5,909 calls in 2022. 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.

###