

# Sycamore Fire Department

## Press Release

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**Incident:** On Friday, February 26, 2021 at approximately 2143 hours, the Sycamore Fire Department was dispatched to 942 Arvle Circle for a reported structure fire. Upon arrival, the Fire Department found a four-unit townhome complex with heavy smoke showing and an active fire in the 942 Arvle Circle 2<sup>nd</sup> story unit.

As the first responding engine company was advancing a 1 ¾" handline into the interior of the structure, they encountered the occupant in the stairwell. The engine company crew along with local police officers were able to rescue the male occupant and remove him to the outside, where he was treated for his injuries and quickly transported to the hospital. A second engine company stretched a 1 ¾" handline to the rear of the structure to counter a rapidly advancing fire. Once the first engine crew passed the care of the patient to the ambulance crew, they completed stretching the 1 ¾" hand line up the stairwell and into the fire unit and were able to mount an aggressive interior fire attack, which allowed the transition from a short-term exterior attack and the fire was quickly controlled.

A primary and secondary search for any additional occupants was conducted in the affected units. After the fire was extinguished, the fire unit and adjoining units were ventilated from smoke, and salvage and overhaul operations were conducted.

The fire alarm went to the General Alarm level and assistance was received from several neighboring fire departments including DeKalb, Elburn, Cortland, Genoa-Kingston, Malta and Pingree Grove along with help from the Office of the State Fire Marshall. The Sycamore Police Department, Dekalb County Sheriff's Department, ComEd and Nicor also assisted at the scene.

The unit of the fire origin suffered significant heat, flame, and smoke damage. The adjoining unit suffered smoke and water damage. Damage is estimated at \$300,000 to the structure \$75,000 for contents in the townhomes.

One resident suffered significant burns and was transported to Kishwaukee Community Hospital and was later transferred to OSF St. Anthony Burn Center in Rockford. There were no injuries to firefighters.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.