



PRESS RELEASE

Darien-Woodridge Fire District
7550 Lyman Ave
Darien, IL 60561



Contact Information:

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Date: December 24, 2007

For Immediate Release

Apartment Fire

At 10:23 AM, fire units responded to a fire alarm at 7508 Orchard Lane, in Woodridge. Approximately two minutes later, police on the scene confirmed a fire in one of the apartments. The call was then quickly elevated to bring additional companies to the scene and to staff the Darien-Woodridge Fire District stations. Fire units arrived on the scene at 10:29 and noticed smoke from a second floor unit.

Personnel quickly extended hose lines into the fire unit, while additional crews made sure everyone was evacuated from the building. Due to increasing smoke levels, and the inclement weather, the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System was activated to bring more units to the scene. Aid was received from five departments.

Aggressive actions kept the fire contained to the original unit, and the fire was quickly extinguished. Fire and smoke damage was extensive to the unit, and it will be uninhabitable for some time. The other residents were allowed to return to their units. Damage estimates are placed at approximately \$20,000. Management is assisting the resident in relocating to a different apartment.

There were two occupants home at the time of the fire and both safely escaped. The cause of the fire was attributed to unattended cooking. No injuries were reported by the other residents or to firefighters.

The Darien-Woodridge Fire District would like to remind everyone about the dangers associated with cooking. This month an elderly woman dies from burns she sustained from reaching over a stove. And on the 21st, a very small child pulled a pot of boiling water onto himself receiving 1st and 2nd degree burns to 24% of his body. He was taken to the burn unit at Loyola Hospital. Some simple safety tips are to:

- Keep pot handles turned in over the stove
- Keep pots on the back burners
- Never leave the kitchen when cooking
- Keep combustibles away from the stove
- Don't keep anything in locations that require you to reach over the stove to get to them
