



# DARIEN-WOODRIDGE

Fire Protection District

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Contact Information:**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 3, 2014 / Townhome Fire

On January 3, 2014, at 1352 hours, the Darien-Woodridge Fire District responded to 911 reports of townhome fire in the 7900 block of Knottingham Circle in Darien. The first fire units arrived on the scene at 7961 Knottingham Circle in less than three minutes and had heavy smoke showing from the roof of a 4-unit townhome building. Initial reports from bystanders on the scene were that there were occupants still in one of the units. The incident was elevated to a Box Alarm level.

Crews entering the building were reporting heavy fire conditions on the second floor in two of the four units. Entry was also made into attached units with primary searches being completed while multiple hoselines were put in place to extinguish the fire. The four units were cleared on the primary searches confirming that no one was occupying the building.

Due to the spread of the fire throughout the walls and into the common attic space, there was extensive overhaul necessary to complete extinguishment. Electricity, natural gas, and water services to the entire building were shut off. That, along with the extent of the damage left all 4 units uninhabitable. Initial damage estimates are at \$800,000 and the cause of the fire remains under investigation, however the investigation is focused on plumbing work that was being completed in one of the units.

There was a minor injury reported by the Darien Police Department that a worker had sustained while inside the building. He was treated and released at the scene. There were no casualties to firefighters, or any other civilians as a result of the incident.

Darien-Woodridge received automatic aid for incident from Downers Grove, Westmont, Lisle-Woodridge, Lemont, LaGrange Park, Pleasantview, Tri-State, York Center, Argonne, Lombard, and Romeoville Fire Departments.

The Darien-Woodridge Fire District wants to remind everyone of the importance of having working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and a family escape plan with a designated meeting place outside the residence.

\*\*\*END OF RELEASE\*\*\*