

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth - Fire Department

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*For more information contact Kate Van Daele,
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DATE: 1/4/2022

SUBJECT: Early morning house fire causes \$70,000 in damages

BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire

CASE NO.: 22-00137

INCIDENT DATE: 1/4/2022

INCIDENT TIME: 6:15a.m.

INCIDENT LOCATION: 700 block of West 2nd Street

Early morning house fire causes \$70,000 in damages

[Duluth, MN] Just after 6:15 a.m. this morning, the Duluth Fire Department responded to a report of a structure fire on the 700 block of West 2nd Street. When crews arrived, they found heavy fire on the back of the two-story single-family dwelling unit.

The property is well known to the Fire Department. The home was condemned in 2012, and crews have been back multiple times to board up the home after repeated break in's. The property is still condemned today.

Due to the home being boarded up, initially the fire was fought with defensive tactics. When the exterior fire was knocked down and structural integrity was confined, fire crews were allowed to enter the home and knock down remaining embers.

Crews from Headquarters, Lincoln Park, and Spirit Valley responded to the fire.

Witnesses had reported that squatters had been camping under the structure where the fire originated. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental by the Duluth Fire Marshal's Office. No additional information is available at this time. No one was injured as a part of this incident. Damage estimates are valued at \$60,000 to the structure and \$10,000 for contents.

The Duluth Fire Department encourages those in need of shelter to use the services at CHUM located at 120 North 1st Avenue West. CHUM's Drop In Center is open 24 hours a day. The Warming Center is also available between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. at the Rainbow Center. The DTA is providing free rides to and from the Warming Center to anyone in need of temporary shelter.

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