

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**City of Duluth - Fire Department**

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**DATE: 7/27/2023**

**SUBJECT: Structure fire at 1701 E First Street**

**BY: Kelli Latuska, Public Information Officer**

**NATURE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire**

**CASE NO.: DFD23008440**

**INCIDENT DATE: 7/27/2023**

**INCIDENT TIME: 0430**

**INCIDENT LOCATION: 1701 E First Street**

**Structure fire at 1701 E First Street**

[DULUTH, MN] At 4:30 AM on Thursday, July 27, Duluth Fire Department was dispatched to a report of a structure fire at 1701 E First Street. 4 Quint was first on scene and found heavy smoke coming from two floors of a three-floor, seven-unit multi-family dwelling. Crews from Headquarters, UMD, Woodland and Lakeside worked to attack the fire.

Eleven residents were home at the time of the fire and safely evacuated the structure. One resident suffered a minor burn injury. No other injuries were reported. A total of four pet cats were found on scene, three of whom perished in the fire and one is expected to survive. "Thanks in part to properly working fire alarms in this building, all eleven residents in this complex were able to act swiftly, call 911, and escape with no loss of human life," said Assistant Fire Chief Dennis Edwards.

All 11 residents of this multifamily home are displaced by the fire. American Red Cross is assisting them with resources.

Initial damage to the building and contents is estimated at \$150K. The fire is currently under investigation by the Duluth Fire Marshal's office. Thanks to St. Louis County 911, DPD, American Red Cross, and Minnesota Power for their assistance.

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