

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**City of Duluth - Fire Department**

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**DATE:** 6/21/2023

**SUBJECT:** Structure fire at 5814 Elinor Street

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

**NATURE OF INCIDENT:** Structure Fire

**CASE NO.:** DFD23006867

**INCIDENT DATE:** 6/21/2023

**INCIDENT TIME:** 5:35 PM

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** 5814 Elinor Street

**Structure fire at 5814 Elinor Street**

[DULUTH, MN] At 5:35 PM on Wednesday, June 21, Duluth Fire Department was dispatched to a report of a house fire at 5814 Elinor Street. Crews from the Spirit Valley Fire Station were first on scene and found a fire that had originated in a bedroom of a single family one and a half story dwelling. The door to the bedroom it originated in was closed, limiting damage to the home by preventing the fire from spreading to the remainder of the home. Crews from Spirit Valley, Gary, Lincoln Park, and Headquarters worked to attack the fire.

One adult and one child was home at the time of the fire and safely escaped with their cat, Sasha. The family of three (one child was not at home at the time of the fire) and their pets are displaced by the fire, and the American Red Cross is assisting them with resources. Firefighters additionally rescued an eight-month-old ball python named Stephanie from the bedroom where the fire originated. No injuries were reported.

“This family was alerted to the fire in the home by the alarm in their working smoke detector, and we can’t reiterate enough how important a smoke detector is in keeping your families and property safe. These residents were able to act quickly and call 911 and get themselves and their cat out safely and soundly thanks, in part, to their smoke detector,” said DFD Assistant Chief Dennis Edwards.

Damage to the building and contents is estimated at \$25K, primarily from smoke

damage. 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. Great work by B-shift crews!

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