

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE _____

September 4, 2019



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UPDATE/CORRECTION

SUFFOLK, VA (September 4, 2019) – Suffolk Fire & Rescue crews remain on scene at this morning's Downtown Suffolk incident. The building is classified as 10-stories due to its height however it is actually 7-stories with a basement and mechanical room on the roof.

The call to Emergency Communications came in at 9:22 a.m. (corrected time), and the first units arrived on scene at 9:25 a.m. The 3-alarm fire was called under control at 10:02 a.m. There were no injuries.

Battalion Chief William Kessinger advised that the fire was contained to the roof, however, the 7th floor sustained water damage and several floors sustained smoke damage. The building is being ventilated at this time.

Responding units included Engines 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, Ladders 3, 5 and 6, Rescue 1, Medic 6 Rehab 1, Cars 1, 3 and 4, EMS-1 and 10, Battalions 1, 2 and 3, and Safety 1.

The City of Chesapeake assisted with an Engine and Ladder to backfill Station 5, and Carrollton provided a Rescue Unit to backfill Station 1 during this major response.

The affected road closures are expected to remain in effect until approximately 2:00 p.m. due to the staging of equipment and fire hoses.

The Fire Marshal's Office will be conducting an investigation as to the cause of the fire.

Photos and video will be made available to local media.

SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE ON SCENE OF DOWNTOWN HIGH-RISE FIRE

SUFFOLK, VA (September 4, 2019) – Suffolk Fire & Rescue crews are on scene of a high-rise fire in Downtown Suffolk. Emergency Communications was notified at 9:21 a.m. of the fire at the Tower 112 building located at 112 West Washington Street and the corner of North Main Street.

Fire was initially reported as showing from the roof of the 10-story landmark building. Smoke conditions have been reported on several stories of the building as crews respond to each floor to ensure that everyone has evacuated.

Suffolk Police are directing traffic as multiple streets, including North Main Street from the Godwin Courts Building to the corner of West Washington extending down West Washington Street to Saratoga Street are expected to remain closed for the next several hours.

An updated Media Release will follow noting responding units since this is an ongoing incident. No injuries have been reported at this time.

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