

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE _____

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SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE RESPOND TO POSSIBLE HAZMAT INCIDENT

SUFFOLK, VA (December 28, 2019) Suffolk Fire & Rescue responded to two locations related to a possible hazmat incident involving a Norfolk Southern freight train this evening, Saturday, December 28, 2019. Emergency Communications was notified of the incident at 8:51 p.m.

Suffolk Fire & Rescue Battalion Chief Chuck Knight advised that a Norfolk Southern train stopped at Lake Meade Drive and Lake Cahoon Road after two workers on the train took ill after the train reportedly passed through what was described as a mist at the Saratoga Street rail crossing. Following emergency medical assessment and treatment by Suffolk Fire & Rescue personnel at the scene, the two workers were transported to Sentara Obici Hospital for further evaluation. As a result, train traffic was stopped at these locations while the incident was investigated.

Fire & Rescue personnel along with a representative from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Hazmat Team responded to the Saratoga Street area and did not find any sign of the noted mist. Norfolk Southern officials called in a private hazmat company to evaluate the train before releasing it to continue traveling.

The incident remains under investigation.

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