

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE _____

July 16, 2021



Contact:

Diana L. Klink
Office: 757.514.4104
Mobile: 757.359.1845

Tim Kelley
Office: 757.514.4103
Mobile: 757.871.3039

UPDATE

SUFFOLK, VA (July 16, 2021) Battalion Chief Chris Cornwell, Suffolk Fire Marshal, has confirmed that the cause of the fire has been ruled accidental due to carelessly discarded smoking materials.

FIREFIGHTERS ON SCENE OF TWO ALARM FIRE JONATHANS WAY

SUFFOLK, VA (July 16, 2021) Suffolk Fire & Rescue units are currently on scene of a two alarm residential structure fire in the 200 block of Jonathans Way in the Applewood neighborhood.

Emergency Communications was contacted at 12:55 p.m. advising of the incident after a neighbor reported seeing smoke outside the residence.

Chief Michael Barakey advised that upon arrival at the two-story home it was confirmed that there were no occupants or pets inside the residence. Upon preliminary investigation it was determined that the fire started on the exterior side of the home and then entered the attic space through the knee wall. The fire escalated to a Two Alarm Fire when a May Day was called after two firefighters were overcome by heat and were physically assisted out of the residence. They received emergency medical assessment

and treatment, and one firefighter was transported to a local hospital for further observation.

Due to today's extreme heat conditions and the approximately 50 pounds of protective gear and equipment utilized by each firefighter, they were rotating in 10-minute shifts during the incident, and the Rehab Bus was also brought to the scene.

The fire was called under control at 2:08 p.m. Two adults have been displaced and are receiving assistance.

Mutual aid was provided by the Chesapeake Fire Department, Smithfield Fire Department, and the Carrsville Fire Department in back-filling stations and providing equipment.

Due to the proximity of neighboring homes, responding units included Engines 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7; Ladders 3 and 6; Rescue 1, Safety 1, Medics 1, 6, and 9; the Rehab Bus, Battalions 1, 2, 3, and 5; and Cars 1, 3, and 4.

Suffolk Police are also on scene and the roadway in the immediate area is expected to be closed for an extensive period of time as responding emergency apparatus leave the scene.

The Fire Marshal's Office will be handling the investigation.

###