

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 15, 2022



Contact:

Tim Kelley
(Office) 757.514.4103
(Mobile) 757.871.3039

CORRECTION

SUFFOLK, Virginia (April 15, 2022) The apartment building involved in the fire on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, is in the 500 block of Smith Street not the 400 block of Smith Street as originally reported.

UPDATE

SUFFOLK, Virginia (April 14, 2022) As an update to yesterday's fire, one of the juvenile females transported to an area hospital remained in critical condition as of last night.

Of the three Firefighters transported from the scene, one has been released from the hospital while the other two remain hospitalized and are in stable condition.

At this point, it is believed that 11 people, including 5 adults and 6 children, are displaced as a result of the fire. Fire Marshal Chris Cornwell advised that those home at the time of the fire were alerted by a working smoke detector in the building.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

UPDATE

SUFFOLK, Virginia (April 13, 2022) Chief Michael Barakey advises that an additional firefighter was transported to an area hospital with what is believed to be heat exhaustion after assessment and treatment at the scene.

The residents of the apartment building will be displaced and the American Red Cross has been contacted to provide assistance. The number of people who reside the building is unknown at this time.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

UPDATE

SUFFOLK, Virginia (April 13, 2022) The fire was marked under control at 3:15 p.m.

UPDATE

SUFFOLK, Virginia (April 13, 2022) Chief Michael Barakey advises that two children were pulled from the home by Suffolk Police and Suffolk Fire & Rescue personnel. Both were evaluated at the scene for possible smoke inhalation and were transported to an area hospital. Additionally, two Suffolk Fire & Rescue firefighters were treated at the scene for heat exhaustion with one of the firefighters taken to an area hospital.

The secondary search of the structure has been completed and deemed all clear.

The fire has not been marked under control as of 2:30 p.m.

SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE RESPOND TO APARTMENT FIRE – SMITH STREET

SUFFOLK, Virginia (April 13, 2022) Suffolk Fire & Rescue are on the scene of a working three alarm structure fire in the 400 block of Smith Street today, Wednesday, April 13, 2022. Emergency Communications was contacted at 1:23 p.m.

Fire Chief Michael Barakey advised that the first unit on the scene found heavy flames showing from the rear of the structure. Initial reports indicated several people trapped inside. A primary search was conducted with no one found. A secondary search is pending. No injuries have been reported at this time.

Responding units include Battalion 1, Battalion 2, Engine 1, Engine 2, Engine 3, Engine 4, Engine 6, Engine 7, Engine 8, Engine 9, EMS 1, Fire Marshal 6, Fire Marshal 7, Ladder 3, Ladder 5, Ladder 6, Medic 1, Medic 3, Medic 6, Rescue 1, Rehab 6, Safety 1, and Suffolk Police. Chesapeake Fire personnel are assisting with backfilling multiple stations in Suffolk at this time.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

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