

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 13, 2014



**Contact:**

Diana L. Klink  
757.514.4104  
757.359.1845

### **RESIDENTIAL FIRE DISPLACES ONE**

SUFFOLK, Virginia (July 13, 2014) Suffolk Fire & Rescue and Suffolk Police responded earlier this morning to a residential fire in downtown Suffolk. Emergency Communications received the call at 9:31 a.m. advising of the fire in the 300 block of Cedar Street and units were on scene at 9:35 a.m.

Upon preliminary investigation it was determined that three electrical transformers had blown in the area. A neighbor heard the loud noise and went outside to investigate and discovered smoke at a neighbor's residence. The neighbor was able to awaken the sleeping occupants and they were able to safely evacuate prior to the arrival of firefighters. The neighbor then used a fire extinguisher to attempt to extinguish the flames that were confined to an enclosed porch where the panel box and wall were on fire. The neighbor was also assisted by another neighbor.

When firefighters arrived they used additional extinguishers since the panel box was still activated and water couldn't be used. Damage to the two-story residence extended to the upstairs bathroom and the occupant was displaced and is being assisted by the American Red Cross. There were no injuries.

Engines 1, 2, 3 and 4, Ladder 3, Rescue 1, Battalion 1, EMS 1 and Medic 3 responded to the fire.

Dominion Virginia Power also sent additional crews to determine what initially caused the transformers to blow. The 300 block of Cedar Street is expected to be without electrical power for several hours.

The Fire Marshal's Office is investigating.

###