

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **UPDATE**

SUFFOLK, VA (April 17, 2018) Suffolk Fire & Rescue advises that the gas leak has been secured and the residents have been allowed to return to their apartments.

Virginia Natural Gas will remain on scene as they continue to make repairs to the ruptured gas line.

### **APARTMENTS EVACUATED DUE TO GAS LEAK**

SUFFOLK, VA (April 17, 2018) Suffolk Fire & Rescue is currently on the scene of a gas leak at The Residences at October Apartments in Downtown Suffolk.

Emergency Communications was made aware of the incident in the 2000 block of Freney Avenue at 11:25 a.m. and the first units arrived on scene at 11:31 a.m. Upon preliminary investigation It was determined that contractors working in the area had ruptured a gas service line. Virginia Natural Gas crews have also responded.

Battalion Chief Chuck Knight has advised that the occupants of two apartment buildings closest to the ruptured line have been evacuated, and other residents were advised to shelter in place. Evacuated residents are currently being sheltered in a vacant apartment as well as Suffolk Fire & Rescue's Rehab Bus. Strong winds are helping to dissipate gas fumes.

Freeney Avenue is currently closed from S. 12<sup>th</sup> Street into the apartment complex. Suffolk Police are providing traffic control. There have been no injuries.

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