

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**City of Duluth - Fire Department**

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**DATE:** 3/22/2024

**SUBJECT:** Duluth Fire Department responds to multiple structure fires Friday evening

**BY:** Kelli Latuska, Public Information Officer

**NATURE OF INCIDENT:** Structure Fire

**CASE NO.:** DFD24003403/DFD24003407

**INCIDENT DATE:** 3/22/2024

**INCIDENT TIME:**

**INCIDENT LOCATION:**

## **Duluth Fire Department responds to multiple structure fires Friday evening**

[DULUTH, MN] Duluth Fire Department responded to two structure fire calls on Friday evening. The first call, dispatched at 6:38 pm, was to a business located at 2601 W. Superior Street. 2 Engine was on scene in two minutes to find a refuse dumpster and a recycling dumpster on the exterior of the building on fire. The fire had begun to burn the exterior of the structure, but crews from Lincoln Park, Headquarters, and Spirit Valley were able to knock the fire down before it penetrated into the interior of the building. Damage to the building is estimated at \$10K. Assistant Fire Chief Dennis Edwards credits bystanders' fast response in calling 911, along with the quick action by DFD crews, for limiting the damage to the structure to just the exterior.

Crews were dispatched again at 7:59 PM to a two-story four-unit apartment building located at 619 N Tenth Avenue E. DFD was on scene in just over two minutes, where Duluth Police Department were assisting in the safe evacuation of two residents of the building. Crews from UMD, Headquarters, and Lincoln Park found heavy smoke on the first floor of the building and quickly advanced lines into the structure to knock down the fire. The fire was contained to just one unit inside the structure, but all four units sustained smoke damage. One cat was present inside the structure and survived by taking refuge under a bed in a neighboring apartment. Fire and smoke damage to the structure is estimated at \$20K. No residents are reported to be displaced by the fire.

No injuries were reported in either incident. Both fires are under investigation by the Duluth Fire Marshal's office.

Duluth Fire Department thanks their partners at Saint Louis County 911 dispatch for their assistance in the response to these incidents, as well Mayo Ambulance and Duluth Police Department. A special thank you goes to their partners in the DPD for their assistance in evacuating the residents of the structure on N. Tenth Avenue E.

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