FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE





City of Duluth - Fire Department

602 West Second Street • Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-730-4400 •www.duluthmn.gov

For more information contact Phil Jents, Communications and Policy Officer at 218-730-5315

DATE: 9/14/2022 SUBJECT: Structure Fire at 522 E Fourth Street BY: Kelli Latuska, Public Information Officer

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire CASE NO.: DFD22010656 INCIDENT DATE: 9/14/2022 INCIDENT TIME: 5:37 PM INCIDENT LOCATION: 522 E Fourth Street

Structure Fire at 522 E Fourth Street

At 5:37 PM on Wednesday, September 14, Duluth Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at 522 E Fourth Street. The City of Duluth's Public Works Department shut gas off to the entire 500 block of Fourth Street to maintain safety of surrounding businesses and residents in the area. Minnesota Power shut electricity off on the block, as well. The fire originated inside the Lake Superior Medical Equipment building. All residents in the four apartments located above the building were safely evacuated. Duluth Police Department assisted in blocking off access to the scene.

Wind created challenging firefighting conditions, and Superior Fire Department dispatched a ladder truck to assist in aerial firefighting operations. The 148th Fighter Wing dispatched an air trailer to assist in refilling DFD's air canisters. Duluth Fire Department thanks the Duluth Police Department, Duluth Public Works Department, Superior Fire Department, and the 148th Fighter Wing for their assistance and mutual aid.

As of 8:35 PM, the fire was still contained to the Lake Superior Medical Equipment building, where the fire originated. There were no injuries reported at that time.

DFD asks that the public observe the barricades around the area and stay away from the area surrounding the scene. They also ask that motorists near the scene avoid driving over firehoses, as it is both dangerous and destructive to do so. Duluth Fire Department thanks the public for their cooperation while they work to make the area safe.

DFD's and the City of Duluth's thoughts are with those residents in the area who may have been temporarily displaced due to the fire.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by Duluth Fire Department's Fire Marshal.