



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**City of Duluth - Fire Department**

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602 West Second Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
218-730-4400 | [www.duluthmn.gov](http://www.duluthmn.gov) | Fire Department



For more information contact the Fire Department at 218-730-4391

**DATE: 5/29/2016**

**SUBJECT: Fatal structure fire**

**BY: Assitant Chief's Office**

**NATURE OF INCIDENT: Strucure fire**

**CASE NO.: 2016-00005167**

**INCIDENT DATE: 5/29/2016**

**INCIDENT TIME: 09:20**

**INCIDENT LOCATION: 2409 Leonard St**

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The Duluth Fire Dept. was dispatched to an automatic fire alarm at the Meridian Apartments at 2409 Leonard St in the Piedmont area. On arrival fire crews found there was smoke in the hallway and reports of an individual possibly still in the apartment. Fire crews than called for a full fire response to this address.

6 fire apparatus with 20 firefighters responded to this incident where they found a fire confined to one apartment on the first floor. Upon entering the apartment firefighters were met with heavy smoke and found one burn victim in the living room. They removed the victim through the window of the apartment to fire crews outside to assist with patient care. The patient was transported to Essentia Health via Gold Cross Ambulance service where the victim was later pronounced dead.

The fire had been partially extinguished by the sprinkler system. The cause of the fire and the cause of the death are still under investigation with the fire at this point being listed as undetermined. There will be an autopsy to determine the cause of death.