

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth - Fire Department

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*For more information contact Kate Van Daele,
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DATE: 4/4/2021

SUBJECT: Duluth Fire reports first fire fatality of 2021

BY: Assistant Chief Clint Reff

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire

CASE NO.: 21-3398

INCIDENT DATE: 4/4/2021

INCIDENT TIME: 12:58p.m.

INCIDENT LOCATION: 631 East 3rd Street

Duluth Fire reports first fire fatality of 2021

[Duluth, MN] At 12:58 p.m. this afternoon, the Duluth Fire Department responded to a structure fire report at 631 East 3rd Street. Upon arrival at the two-story eight-plex, crews found a fire in the bedroom of a first-floor apartment. Crews began the fire attack and quickly knocked it down. There was no extension of the fire, as extinguishment confined the fire to the unit of origin.

A primary search of the apartment resulted in the discovery of a deceased individual. The identity of the individual is not known at this time. The identity will be released after the next of kin has been notified.

The fire is under investigation by the Duluth Fire Marshal's Office. No additional information is available at this time.

The other tenants in the building were able to evacuate their apartments. Crews were able to rescue a dog that was in the apartment where the fire began. The dog was not injured. One of the adjacent neighbors has taken the dog in for the time being.

Damage was limited to one apartment. The remaining tenants were able to remain in the apartment complex. Damage estimates are estimated to \$5,000 for room and contents. Crews from Headquarters, U.M.D., and Lincoln Park responded to this fire.

In 2020, the State of Minnesota saw an uptick in fire fatalities. Duluth had one fire fatality in 2020 and another in 2019.

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