



Town of Falmouth
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NEWS RELEASE - 2021-07

For Immediate Release: September 15, 2021

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Falmouth Fire-EMS Extinguishes Barn Fire on Country Lane

On Wednesday evening at 6:17 p.m. Falmouth Fire-EMS was dispatched to a report of a possible lightning strike with fire at 3 Country Lane in Falmouth. The initial call also reported that there was a female still in the barn. Assistant Fire Chief Jay Hallett was the first to arrive on scene 3 minutes later and reported heavy smoke coming from a large 2-story barn on the premises. Assistant Chief Hallett immediately upgraded the call to a Working Fire, which brought additional units to the scene. Chief Howard Rice then arrived on scene, immediately followed by Falmouth Engine 2, Falmouth Ambulance 2 and Portland Ladder 4. In under 6 minutes there were 14 firefighters on the scene. Crews were met by the occupants of the main house, who reported that the woman was no longer in the barn. She was across the street at a family member's house.

At the time of the call a very strong thunderstorm had just moved through town. The rain had stopped as crews were arriving on the scene.

Falmouth Engine 2, along with the crew off Ambulance 2, quickly pulled 2 charged hose lines and immediately attacked the fire while Portland Ladder 4 set up the aerial in the driveway with the assignment of keeping the fire from reaching the main house. Ladder 4's crew then made access to the apartment in the barn to confirm that nobody was in the building. After that a charged hose line was pulled from Ladder 4 to assist the crews in attacking the fire in the garage.

Falmouth Engine 4 arrived and connected a large diameter supply line from Ladder 4 to a hydrant on Charlotte Drive. Falmouth Tower 2 set up a position on Country Lane and Falmouth Engine 1, Falmouth Tank 4 and Falmouth Ambulance 3 all provided manpower to the scene. A total of 2 hydrants were used, and Ledgewood Drive was shut down to traffic for approximately 2 hours by Falmouth Police.

The bulk of the fire was contained to the 3-bay garage section of the barn. Inside the barn, behind the garage was a 2-story residence. Crews worked to keep the fire from spreading to the residence and were aided by a fire wall that had been built to separate the garage area from the living area and by several doors that were closed inside the barn itself. This held the fire from spreading throughout the barn and allowed the fire crews to extinguish it before it spread further. The residence did sustain some smoke and water damage but no fire damage.

Yarmouth Engine 81 responded to the scene to provide a Rapid Intervention Team. An Engine company from Westbrook covered the Winn Road Fire Station and an engine company from Cumberland covered Central Station on Bucknam Road. The coverage crews responded to 2 fire calls while covering the Falmouth stations.

There were no injuries on scene and all units cleared the scene by 9 pm.

End of release.

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