



Town of Falmouth
Fire-EMS Department
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NEWS RELEASE - 2022-07

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Falmouth Fire-EMS Responds to House Fire on Brook Road

On Wednesday at 4:57 p.m. Falmouth Fire-EMS was dispatched to a report of a fire inside a residence at 83 Brook Road. Falmouth Engine 4 arrived on scene 4 minutes later and reported heavy smoke and fire showing from the rear of the 2-story residence. Chief Howard Rice upgraded the call to a Working Fire response, which brings all of Falmouth's units to the scene as well as mutual aid to the scene and station coverage. Engine 4 met with the homeowner who confirmed that there was nobody inside the home and the crew immediately initiated a fire attack. Deputy Chief Tom Martelle arrived on scene and assisted the crew of 2 on Engine 4 by operating the engine so the crew could take the hose line to the building. Chief Howard Rice arrived on scene and took over incident command of the scene, directing Tank 4 to supply Engine 4 with water from a fire hydrant just down the street and for the next arriving crew, on Ambulance 2, to back up Engine 4's crew that was operating 2 hose lines that were now pulled to the side and rear of the structure. Crews from Tank 4 and Engine 2 assisted with the crews operating inside the building by helping them bring the lines further into the building. Crews encountered heavy fire conditions on the first floor with high heat and zero visibility. Tower 2 arrived on scene and was sent to replace the initial fire attack crews and assist with ventilation of the building.

Mutual Aid arrived on the scene from Westbrook Engine 3 and Portland Ladder 4 along with Falmouth Engine 1, Ambulance 4 and Utility 4, and crews pulled another hose line into the front of the residence and then went to the second floor to extinguish the fire that had traveled up the walls to the second story. Yarmouth Engine 81 arrived and stood by on scene as the Firefighter Rapid Intervention Team (RIT), ready and positioned for protection and any potential rescue needed of the crews operating inside the burning building. The RIT also put up ground ladders around the building in case needed by the inside crews to egress the building from the second floor in an emergency. A crew set up a firefighter rehab station with a Falmouth Ambulance on scene.

Interior crews rotated on the hand lines and overhauled the fire by opening up the interior walls and ceilings to extinguish the fire, which appeared to have started in the back of the house in the kitchen but had spread throughout the first floor and into the second floor. The house sustained extensive damage from the fire and one cat perished at the scene.

An engine company from North Yarmouth covered the Winn Road Fire Station and an engine company from Cumberland and ambulance from Windham covered Central Station on Bucknam Road. The crews covering Central Station responded to one EMS call in Falmouth while covering. Falmouth Police assisted on scene and Brook Road was closed for the duration of the fire. Falmouth Public Works was called to the scene to sand the roadway as ice had built up from the hose lines. The Fire Marshal's Office was called to the scene to assist in determining the cause of the fire.

There were no injuries on scene.

End of release.

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