

Daniel A. Goonan
Chief of Department



Richard P. McGahey
Assistant Chief

City of Manchester

Fire Department

Press Release
16 April, 2018

Address: 374 Merrimack St.

Dispatch: 0525

Under Control: 0940

Resources: 4th alarm equivalent

Description of Incident: Dispatch received a call of a fire at this location. Crews arrived 3 minutes after the call to find the occupied 6 family structure with the 2nd and 3rd floors heavily engulfed in fire. Initial crews advanced into the interior to search for and evacuate any trapped occupants. Additional arriving crews worked to keep the growing fire to the building of origin (which they were successful in doing). Ten minutes after arrival all crews were ordered to evacuate the building as flames had begun to consume most of the building. Fire crews were then ordered into defensive mode. All occupants self-evacuated.

Civilian Injuries:

Emergency Service Injuries: 2

Special Circumstances: Tightly congested inner city neighborhood, exceptional efforts by the responding crews kept this fire to the building of origin. Fire crews were hampered by weather conditions upon arrival.

Fire Cause: The property was a 6 unit apartment building with a total of 15 residents. All occupants are safe and accounted for at this time. The fire started in the second floor bedroom of apartment 3. The occupant stated that he was smoking in bed and dropped his cigarette. He stated that when he realized he had dropped the cigarette the side of the bed was on fire. An attempt was made to extinguish the fire but it was unsuccessful. The occupants of the fire apartment then called 911 to report the fire and went through the building evacuating residents. This fire is classified as accidental.

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Estimated dollar loss: \$300,000.00

Incident Commander: District Chief Hank Martineau