



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Operations Division

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Joseph Hoffman, Assistant Fire Chief

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## Press Release

To: All Media Outlets

From: Joseph (Joe) Hoffman, Assistant Fire Chief

Date: September 13, 2019

Re: Working Structure Fire at Hillcrest Park Apartments -1802 Shephard Court

At approximately 23:20, the City of Waukesha Police and Fire Dispatch Center started to receive calls of a reported Structure Fire at 1803 E Main Street. Residents at 1803 reported that a lightning had struck the building or in the area of their building and caused the fire alarms to activating. City of Waukesha Police and Fire Dispatch Center then received a call from a neighboring building at the apartment complex reporting the buildings fire alarms going off and a possible fire alarm activation there, 1802 Shephard Court. Fire crews were diverted to the Shephard Street address while crews continued to investigate at the E. Main Street. Crews could locate no cause for alarm on E Main Street and cleared there to aid crews on Shephard Court.

Crews at Shephard Court smoke and fire in the attic of the building. City of Waukesha crews continued an aggressive interior fire fight. Crews rescued one resident from the third floor. Despite the best efforts of the interior crews the fire broke through the roof and Fire Crews went to defensive operations. City of Waukesha requested a working still at 2341hrs, which resulted in mutual aid and off duty fire crews reporting to the scene to aid with the firefighting effort. Additional mutual aid resources were requested through the MABAS system, by requesting a MABAS Box Alarm at 02:03 hrs.

At the time of this press release the fire remains under investigation, but initial signs indicate the cause to be related to the storm activity. The apartment building, built in the 1990s, has 42 units, and had fire sprinklers in all occupied areas of the building. The building has extensive damage throughout. The red cross is aiding with a shelter for the displaced residents. Two residents were treated on the scene, with one being transported to the hospital while the other refused further treatment. One firefighter also received minor injuries but was treated on the scene and released.

We will be releasing additional information later today, or you can contact the on-duty Battalion Chief at (262) 524-3669.

-END

