



Woodstock Fire/Rescue District

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News Release: Follow-Up on St. John's Structure Fire Incident - 11/13/24

News Release

The Woodstock Fire/Rescue District continues to respond to the aftermath of the structure fire on November 12, 2024, in the 700 block of St. John's Road. Preliminary investigations indicate the fire began in a first-floor unit. The building lacked both a sprinkler and central smoke alarm system, contributing to the rapid spread of the fire throughout the two-story apartment complex. Firefighters performed several rescues during the early stages of the incident, physically removing residents in need from the building.

Over 30 residents have been displaced, and the entire complex has been deemed uninhabitable. Initial damage estimates for the building and contents are expected to exceed \$1.5 million. Firefighters remain on the scene assisting residents in retrieving belongings and addressing safety concerns.

Many of those affected by the fire are receiving assistance from the American Red Cross. A temporary relocation center has been established at St. John's Lutheran Church, 701 St. John's Road, to provide support and resources for displaced residents. Thank you to St. John's Lutheran Church and the American Red Cross for assisting during this difficult time.

Among the individuals transported, one sustained critical injuries and later passed away. A second patient remains in critical condition, and a third was transported for injuries unrelated to the fire.

Although the fire is not believed to be suspicious in nature, the cause of the fire remains under investigation by the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District, Woodstock Police Department, and Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

We're aware that some private GoFundMe pages have been created for those impacted. As relief efforts continue and needs are assessed, we will keep the community informed on the best ways to assist. The City of Woodstock has dedicated a section on their website for ongoing updates. Visit www.woodstockil.gov/news.

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