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2 STRUCTURE FIRES IN MULTIFAMILY HOUSING

SOUTH ELGIN – The South Elgin Fire District responded at 1405 this afternoon to 1209 Sandhurst Ln. for a reported structure fire. South Elgin Fire responded with the assistance of Elgin, Fox River, and Bartlett Fire Depts. The first Fire Engine on scene reported light smoke from the balcony of a 4 unit townhome. On investigation the first in units found an exterior fire between units 1207 and 1209. The fire was brought under control in approximately 19 minutes. A MABAS Box was called to the first level due to the high temperatures and wind conditions. At 1503 a second fire was reported at 1082 Manchester Ct. which is approximately 2 blocks from the first fire. This incident was reported as a large fire on the exterior of a 4 unit apartment building with someone possibly trapped inside. Change of quarters companies from the original box alarm (Hanover Park Engine, Geneva Engine, and Batavia Ambulance) were initially sent to the second fire. Some crews from the original fire were also redirected to the Manchester Ct. location. The combined incidents were upgraded to the third alarm level. Hanover Park was the first Engine on the scene at Manchester Ct. and reported heavy fire from the front of the apartment. Crews had to rescue one occupant that was confined to a wheelchair from one of the apartments. The occupant was evaluated by an ambulance and medically released. The Manchester Ct. fire was brought under control in approximately 39 minutes with the assistance of Elgin, Hanover Park, Geneva, Batavia, Bartlett, Hampshire, Streamwood, East Dundee, West Dundee, Rutland Dundee, and Carpentersville Fire Depts. An investigation into the cause of both fires was conducted. The determination was “improper discard of smoking materials” for both fires. There was no other correlation between the two incidents.

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