



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Fire Department

602 West Second Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-730-4400 | www.duluthmn.gov | Fire Department



For more information contact the Fire Department at 218-730-4391

DATE: 9/9/2019

SUBJECT: Structure fire

BY: Assistant Chief Clint Reff

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Structure fire

CASE NO.:

INCIDENT DATE: 9/9/2019

INCIDENT TIME: 0223

INCIDENT LOCATION: 302 E 3rd St

At 02:23 AM on Monday September 9th, the Duluth Fire Department responded to a report of a structure fire at 302 E 3rd St.

The first arriving company found a storage room on the east side of a large unoccupied synagogue on fire. The synagogue had smoke and visible fire at the eave level. Crews stretched handlines to the interior of the synagogue and began fire attack on both the shed and church building. A primary search was underway as fire conditions rapidly changed. A call of a Mayday was transmitted for a down fire fighter who was struck by falling debris. The firefighter was then rescued from the balcony level of the church, and transported to St. Luke's Hospital. He was treated and released. No other injuries were reported.

A second alarm was called to include additional command staff. At this point conditions changed, and crews were ordered to exit the building. Upon their exit, a portion of the roof collapsed, and the Department transitioned to defensive operations. At that time the front exterior wall collapsed. The fire continued to grow, which then caused the west wall to collapse.

As of 9:00 a.m. crews are still on scene.

The Duluth Fire Marshall's office is currently investigating the cause and origin of the fire. Any further information will be provided by their office.

Fire companies from Headquarters Station, Two Station, Four Station, Six Station, Seven Station, Eight Station responded. Minnesota Power, Mayo Clinic Ambulance, and the Duluth Police Department were on scene to assist. Off duty personnel were called in to ensure continuity of operations throughout the city.