



DEKALB POLICE DEPARTMENT
700 W. Lincoln Highway
DeKalb, IL 60115
815/748-8400 · cityofdekalb.com



For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

July 10th, 2019

On Tuesday, July 9th, 2019 at approximately 10:54pm, the DeKalb Fire and Police Departments along with the NIU Police Department responded to 808 Ridge Drive for a report of an active fire on the third floor of the building with residents unable to exit. Upon arrival, DeKalb Fire performed ladder rescues from the exterior of the building, while simultaneously extending water hose lines into the building to extinguish the fire. The fire was subsequently extinguished, and the building was evacuated with the assistance of fire and police personnel. Several reported injuries occurred as a result of residents fleeing from the building. Six patients were transported to Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Community Hospital for treatment.

Due to the extent of fire damage, the building was condemned displacing 140 tenants. Immediately following this incident, a Northern Illinois University owned building was utilized as a collection point to facilitate a needs assessment for the residents. As a result of the assessment, the American Red Cross in conjunction with the DeKalb County Housing Authority were contacted to assist with temporary emergency shelter. A space provided by the Housing Authority was utilized for this purpose. The DeKalb County Animal Control and Tails Animal Shelter responded as well to aid in the temporary placement of pets.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal, DeKalb Fire Department, and Investigators from the DeKalb Police Department are collaboratively investigating this incident. If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact the DeKalb Police Department (815-748-8400) or Crime Stoppers (815-895-3272).

Contact: Detective Commander Bob Redel
Interim Chief John Petragallo
Fire Chief Jeff McMaster

The contents of this press release are based upon the best information available to the DeKalb Police Department. The statements regarding the conduct of any person identified above are allegations until affirmatively proven in court. All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.