

Burlington Fire Department
Office of the City Fire Marshal

132 North Avenue. Burlington, Vermont 05401

Fire Alarm/Sprinkler/Plan Review
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For Immediate Release

Early Morning Fire Destroys New North End Mobile Home

The Burlington Fire Department was dispatched to multiple reports of a fully involved mobile home fire at 4 Avenue B in Farrington Trailer Park at 00:28 hours on the morning of Saturday, 19 January 2013. On arrival, firefighters encountered heavy fire in the front of the 1972 mobile home. First – arriving crews deployed 1 ¾” hose lines to protect the surrounding mobile homes and to suppress the main body of fire. An initial search of the dwelling confirmed that there were no other occupants in the building. The sole male owner/occupant had self-evacuated prior to fire department arrival. All 20 on-duty Burlington Firefighters responded to the scene, and the fire was completely extinguished within one hour of the initial call. The Burlington Police Department, Burlington Electric Department, Vermont Gas Service, and American Red Cross also responded to this incident.

The mobile home was owned and occupied by a 59 year old male at the time of the fire. The male occupant was sleeping and awoke to find smoke and fire in the kitchen and dining area of the mobile home. The male evacuated the residence through a rear bedroom door prior to fire department arrival, sustaining minor injuries. The occupant was evaluated and transported by Burlington Fire Department ambulance to Fletcher Allen Health Care emergency department for further treatment. The American Red Cross is working with the male occupant to provide food, shelter, and clothing subsequent to this fire. No responding firefighters were injured during this incident. The land owner of record for Farrington’s Trailer Park is Sandra Farrington.

The mobile home sustained heavy fire damage during this incident, and is deemed a complete loss. The structure is valued at approximately \$3,000 by City of Burlington tax records, and \$1,000 in content loss is estimated. An additional \$2,000 in damage to an adjacent mobile home was sustained due to radiant heat from the fire. This residence was not equipped with working smoke alarms or carbon monoxide detectors at the time of the fire.

This fire is determined to be accidental in nature, caused by malfunction of an electric plug-in baseboard heater. Excess combustible material storage in the area of this heater contributed to the severity of this incident. This incident was investigated by the Burlington Fire Marshal’s Office.

The public is reminded of the importance of having working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors installed on each floor of a residence. Approved, permanent heating systems should be installed in residential occupancies, and should be inspected and serviced on an annual basis by a qualified technician.

END

Date and Time of Release: 22 January 2013 @ 1745 hours
Incident: 13-0000309
Date and Time of Incident: 19 January 2013 @ 0028 hours
Contact: Assistant Fire Marshal Barry Simays
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