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# Burlington Fire Department Office of the City Fire Marshal

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## MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:
Structure Fire (3rd alarm)	21 April 2016 at 0158 hours
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:
16-0002127	135 Hayward Street (2-unit residential)
AUTHOR:	CONTACT #:
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## NARRATIVE:

On Thursday morning, 21 April 2016 at approximately 0158 hours, the Burlington Fire Department was dispatched to multiple 9-1-1 calls reporting a building fire at 135 Hayward Street. The first three BFD companies arrived in less than three minutes to find heavy fire on the south side exterior of a two-story, two-unit, wood-framed residential structure. The incident commander struck a third alarm immediately, calling back all Burlington Fire Department off-duty personnel and command staff and bringing all 20 on-duty personnel to the scene. This fire was extinguished within two hours of the initial call.

The two occupants of the owner-occupied rear dwelling unit and the five tenants of the front rental unit were alerted to the outside fire on the south side of the building by the working smoke alarms within their units, evacuated the building to a meeting place across the street, and called 9-1-1 to report this fire. As their primary means of exit from the building was blocked by fire on the south side of the building, many occupants exited the building through bedroom escape windows on the first and second floor of the front unit.

Two civilian residents were transported to the University of Vermont Medical Center Emergency Department for evaluation and treatment. One resident sustained injuries from a second story fall while jumping from a window. The second resident sustained thermal burns while exiting the building. No firefighters or other responding personnel were injured during this incident.

The South Burlington Fire Department responded to the scene along with the Burlington Police Department, Burlington Electric Department, Vermont Gas, and the American Red Cross. Providing station coverage and response to additional incidents within the City of Burlington during this fire were the Mallett's Bay Fire Department and the Winooski Fire Department.

The building and property is valued at \$319,300 according to City of Burlington property database records and the building and contents is estimated to be a total loss due to the extent of fire damage both outside and inside the structure. Fire damage was also caused to an adjacent property and vehicles. A preliminary damage estimate for property, vehicles, and contents involved is \$250,000.

This fire was investigated by the Burlington Fire Marshal's Office, Vermont State Police, and the Vermont Division of Fire Safety. The cause of the fire was determined to be careless disposal of smoking materials in a large plastic garbage can on the south side of the building and is classified as an accidental fire.

