



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2021



Gina Y. Sweat, Director of Fire Services
CONTACT: Lt. Wayne A. Cooke
Public Information Officer, MFD
901-636-5682 O, 901-508-0614 C
Wayne.Cooke@memphistn.gov

RESIDENTIAL FIRE

565 E. Alston Avenue

MEMPHIS, TN - The Memphis Fire Department responded to a house fire at 565 E. Alston Avenue, Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 5:40 a.m. Upon arrival on the scene, firefighters reported heavy fire visible from the two-story wood-frame residential rooming house. Sixteen (16) pieces of Fire/Rescue/EMS equipment and approximately thirty-eight (38) emergency response personnel ultimately responded to the call. Battalion Chief C. Wilkins was the commanding officer of this incident. The fire was brought under control at 5:48 a.m. *Fire crews rescued three occupants from the home; two were transported in non-critical condition to Regional One Hospital with smoke inhalation. There were no firefighter injuries.*



It has been determined that the residence **did have** a working smoke alarm. The home sustained smoke, fire and water damage. Total damage is estimated at \$10,000.00 structure and \$1,000.00 contents. The origin and cause of the fire was determined to be intentionally set in the interior of the home. *Eugene Chambers (67) was arrested and charged with Aggravated Arson.*

The Memphis Fire Department recommends that all citizens maintain a working smoke alarm in their place of residence. Check alarms monthly and change the battery when you change your clocks. City of Memphis residents may apply for a **free smoke alarm** on-line at: <https://www.memphistn.gov/government/fire-department/free-smoke-alarm-application/> or call the Fire Museum of Memphis at (901) 636-5650. Always have a plan of escape in case there is a fire. Also remember that 9-1-1 is for emergencies only. For all other **FIRE/EMS NON-EMERGENCY** issues please dial (901) 458-8281.

###