



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2021



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RESIDENTIAL FIRE

6819 Birch Lake Drive (*The Park at New Castle Apartments*)

MEMPHIS, TN - The Memphis Fire Department responded to an alarm of fire at 6819 Birch Lake Drive, Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 4:47 a.m. Upon arrival on the scene, firefighters reported smoke visible from the two story wood-frame apartments. Rescue and Firefighting operations began immediately.

Thirteen (13) pieces of Fire/Rescue/EMS equipment and approximately thirty-six (36) emergency response personnel ultimately responded to the call. Battalion Chief J. Harrison was the commanding officer of this incident. The fire was brought under control at 5:02 a.m. There were no firefighter or civilian injuries.



It has been determined that the residence **did have** a working smoke alarm. Two (2) units sustained smoke, fire and/or water damage. Total damage is estimated at \$10,000 structure and \$8,000 contents. The origin and cause of the fire was determined to be a wall receptacle that malfunctioned in the kitchen. Red Cross assistance was not requested.

The Memphis Fire Department urges all citizens to maintain a working smoke alarm in their place of residence. Check smoke alarms once a month and change the battery when you change your clocks. City of Memphis residents may apply for a **free smoke alarm** by calling the Fire Museum of Memphis at (901) 636-5650 or apply on-line: <https://www.memphistn.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11150816&pageId=12053796>.

Always have a plan of escape in case there is a fire. Also remember that 9-1-1 is for emergencies only. For **NON-EMERGENCY FIRE & EMS** issues dial (901) 458-8281.

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