

Conroe Fire Department



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CONROE 2 ALARM APARTMENT FIRE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2017

Contact: Mike Legoudes, Jr. - Assistant Fire Chief

Conroe, TX: The City of Conroe Fire Department was notified of a lightning strike at 2021 Plantation Dr. (Autumn Woods Apartments), near Hillcrest Dr. at approximately 9:48 pm on June 3, 2017.

Conroe Engine 2 arrived at approximately 9:52 pm and reported heavy fire from the roof of one apartment building. At that time a full first alarm assignment was requested and firefighters began an offensive attack on the fire. A second alarm was requested at approximately 10:02 pm. Conditions rapidly deteriorated and firefighters changed to a defensive attack at approximately 10:17 pm. The fire was declared under control at approximately 11:22 pm. Firefighters were able to limit fire damage to approximately half of the involved building.

There were no reported injuries to firefighters or occupants of the building. All occupants were accounted for. Of the 16 units in the building, 8 were completely destroyed by the fire. The American Red Cross responded to assist with providing shelter for the building's 41 occupants.

The Conroe Fire Department Fire Marshal's Office has initiated an investigation into the origin and cause of the fire. It is not believed to be suspicious in nature at the time of this release. The investigation is in its early stages and more information will be released as it becomes available.

The Conroe Fire Department received assistance from Needham Road Fire/Rescue, the Caney Creek Fire Department, the North Montgomery County Fire Department, and the Woodlands Fire Department.

The involved building did not contain fire sprinklers as they were not required at the time it was constructed. Properly installed and maintained fire sprinklers are the single most effective way of preventing unnecessary fire damage and loss of life in the event of a fire. All newly constructed apartment buildings are required to have this critical feature.

It is unknown at the time of this release if the individual apartment units had working smoke alarms. The Conroe Fire Department would like to remind the public of the importance of ensuring smoke alarms are properly installed and contain working batteries. Working smoke alarms often provide the early notification necessary to escape from a fire uninjured and alive.

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