



John A. Chisholm
Fire Chief

CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™
Fire Department



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Second Alarm Building Fire at 53 Hall Street

CONCORD, NH (July 13, 2023) – At 9:44 a.m. the Concord Fire Department responded to 53 Hall Street for a reported building fire. Units arrived to find fire coming out of a window on the side of the building. Firefighters entered the building and made an aggressive interior attack that knocked down the bulk of the visible fire. Multiple apartments were searched and it was determined that no residents remained in the building. A second alarm was struck when heavy fire was found in the attic. The general alarm was also sounded to recall all off-duty Concord firefighters. The fire was declared under control at 11:39 a.m.

The building housed three apartments, displacing a total of nine (9) people. The Red Cross was not requested to respond to the scene. One resident was evaluated for smoke inhalation but was not transported to the hospital. One Concord Firefighter was evaluated and treated for heat exhaustion but did not require transport to the hospital. Three cats were reported inside the building at the time of the fire. One cat was removed unharmed. Concord firefighters treated another cat with oxygen on scene and believe the cat will recover. The third cat has not yet been found.

The heat index reached 87°F during the incident, which contributed to heat stress and the decision to sound the general alarm. Additionally, multiple mutual aid companies were unable to respond to assist due to staffing challenges, which caused delays in mutual aid companies arriving to assist.

Units from Hooksett, Loudon (2), Hopkinton (2), Manchester (2), Chichester, Franklin, Epsom, Allenstown, Weare, and the Capital Area Chief Coordinator assisted Concord units at the scene. Goffstown, Pittsfield, Canterbury, Tilton-Northfield, and Belmont all provided coverage to the City during the fire.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

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If you require further information about this incident, please contact Chief John Chisholm at 603-230-3801, or jchisholm@concordnh.gov.