



John A. Chisholm
Interim Fire Chief

CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™
Fire Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Third Alarm Structure Fire at 54 Rumford Street

CONCORD, NH (August 27, 2022) – Shortly after midnight on August 27, at 12:18 a.m., the Concord Fire Department responded to 54 Rumford Street for the report of a building fire. Prior to arrival, two people had jumped from a second-story window. Units arrived at 12:22 a.m. to find heavy fire on the back of the building. A second alarm was broadcast at 12:24 a.m. Crews made an aggressive attack on the fire until the primary attack line burst for an unknown reason.

In an unrelated event, the fire hydrant that was used as the primary water source failed and spontaneously unearthed itself, leaving the hydrant lying on the ground next to a 20' high geyser of water. The third alarm was broadcast at 12:34 a.m. including a General Alarm requesting all off-duty Concord Firefighters report to work to cover the City. On-scene crews were able to quickly switch to a different hydrant and replace the attack line. The bulk of the fire was then controlled and it took a few additional hours to find and extinguish spot fires throughout the building. All units cleared the scene by 4:27 a.m. except one Engine that sat with the building overnight until the investigation can be started in the morning.

Units from Boscawen, Bow, Chichester, Epsom, Hooksett, Hopkinton, Loudon, Manchester, Pembroke, and the Compact Area Chief Coordinator assisted Concord units at the scene. Franklin, Henniker, Penacook Rescue, Tilton-Northfield, Tri-town Ambulance, and Pittsfield aided with station coverage and responding to other calls in the City including a gunshot victim and infant with difficulty breathing. One firefighter was treated for heat exhaustion at the scene and one occupant was transported to the hospital. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

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