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City of Duluth - Fire Department

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For more information contact the Fire Department at 218-730-4391

DATE: 9/9/2016

SUBJECT: Structure Fire at 2519 Minnesota Ave

BY: Assistant Chief Clint Reff

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Structure Fire

CASE NO.: 16009414

INCIDENT DATE: 9/8/2016

INCIDENT TIME: 23:32

INCIDENT LOCATION: 2518 Minnesota Ave

At 23:32 p.m. on Thursday September 8th, 2016 the Duluth Fire Department responded to a report of a structure fire at 2519 Minnesota Ave. The fire was reported to be a detached garage with oxygen tanks inside.

Upon arrival of the fire department, oxygen tanks were heard exploding and the detached garage was fully involved with fire. The fire had radiated to two nearby houses, starting the exterior of both structures on fire. Holes were cut in the roofs of both houses, as the fire had extended to the attic area of each house. Handlines were deployed to the garage and both of the residences for fire attack. A second alarm was called for additional manpower. The fire was brought under control and the primary searches revealed no occupants inside either house.

The homeowners and tenants of the duplex were home at the time of the fire. All parties were outside of the residences upon arrival of the Fire Department. None of the occupants were able to return to their residences after the fire. There were no civilian or firefighter injuries. A bird and cat were removed from one of the residences with no apparent harm.

The Duluth Police Department assisted with evacuation of the neighboring homes during the tank explosions, as well as Minnesota Power crews shutting off the power. 31 firefighters responded to the fire and remained on scene for over three hours.

Damage from this fire is estimated to be \$140,000.00 with the cause being undetermined at this time. The Duluth Fire Department's Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the cause of the fire and will provide any further information.